

DIRECTOR, FBI

September 4, 1959

SAC, CHICAGO (100-00)(100- new)

ROBERT H. W. WELCH, JR.  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

COMMITTEE AGAINST SUMMIT  
ENTANGLEMENTS  
IS - C

There are enclosed herewith two photostats of two newspaper articles each for the Bureau and Indianapolis. One of these articles appeared in the "Chicago Tribune" of August 31, 1959 entitled "Please, President Eisenhower, Don't!", described thereon as issued by the Committee Against Summit Entanglements. The second article appeared in the August 30, 1959 issue of the publication "The Register" at page 8 entitled "Mr. President! Please Don't!", also issued by the Committee Against Summit Entanglements, 385 Concord Avenue, Belmont 78, Massachusetts. Directly under this descriptive data appears the following: "Manion Forum, South Bend, Indiana".

"The Register" is a Roman Catholic publication believed to have nation-wide circulation.

Both of these articles are self explanatory and in effect urge President EISENHOWER to insist that the visit of KHRUSHCHEV be postponed indefinitely and also urges the President to refrain from visiting Russia as well as not to meet KHRUSHCHEV at any summit conference. Both articles listed the officers of the Committee Against Summit Entanglements and the list contains many prominent names. The Manion Forum is believed to refer to Professor MANION of the Law School of Notre Dame University.

Submitted for information.

4- Bureau (REGISTERED)(Encls. 4)  
2- Indianapolis (REGISTERED)(Encls. 4)  
2- Chicago  
CNF/njb  
(8)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-15-80 BY SP-1 GSH/ld

10/20/59  
Ph...  
100-36671  
100-00-912  
100-00-902



DIRECTOR, FBI

August 27, 1959

SAC, CHICAGO (100-00)

ROBERT H. W. WELCH, JR.  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

07  
5

Re SAC Letter 59-13 (F) captioned as above, setting forth information concerning WELCH, a resident of Belmont, Massachusetts, with offices in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The SAC Letter notes that WELCH is Editor and Publisher of "American Opinion" which he regularly publishes and issues. Neither WELCH nor his publication have ever been the subject of Bureau investigation. In January, 1959 he met with a group of leading industrialists at Milwaukee, Wisconsin at which time he lectured on Communism, the urgent need for anti-Communist action, and his desire to establish ostensible Communist front groups which in reality would be anti-Communist groups. Re SAC Letter instructed that any information concerning further activity by WELCH in the furtherance of his plan should be made known to the Bureau. b7C

On August 20, 1959, Dr. Hedwig S. Kuhn [redacted] for the [redacted] Clinic, Hammond, Indiana, made available certain documents and correspondence received from the captioned individual on the letterhead of "American Opinion" and from the John Birch Society, Belmont 78, Massachusetts, which also appears to be an endeavor of this individual.

There is enclosed herewith for the information of the Bureau, Indianapolis, and Boston, one photostat of each of the following items:

- 2- Bureau (REGISTERED)(Encls. 9 )
  - 1- Boston (REGISTERED)(Encls. 9 )
  - 1- Indianapolis (REGISTERED)(Encls. 9 )
  - 1- Chicago
- CNF/njb  
(5) *njb*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2-15-80 BY SP-1 GSK/LUC

[redacted] is a personal contact of SA [redacted] and original documents have been returned by SA [redacted] to [redacted]

*cc Route  
to Sae for info*

*100-36671-2*

*100-00-921A*



1) Petition entitled "Committee Against Summit Entanglements" advising the President not to attend a "summit conference".

2) Flyer entitled "Just a Minute, Mr. Congressman, before you vote our money and our jobs away. . ." This flyer is described therein as issued by the Citizens Foreign Aid Committee, Suite 335, 1001 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C.

3) A booklet entitled "The Scoreboard" described thereon as an article which was reprinted from "American Opinion", Belmont 78, Massachusetts.

4) A letter dated June 29, 1959 on the letterhead of "American Opinion" to [redacted] and signed ROBERT WELCH. The letter notes that an unpublished manuscript of "mine, which is quite confidential", would be sent to [redacted] in a matter of a few days. The letter notes that "We have a movement under way of which you undoubtedly have heard nothing--because we are concentrating entirely on building strength and understanding rather than creating noise, of which he (LOUIS RUTHENBURG) has been an enthusiastic supporter since it started last December, and which already has local working chapters in four states." WELCH continues by describing the background, methods, and purposes of the John Birch Society and indicates to [redacted] that she will be furnished additional information concerning it. b7C

5) A letter to [redacted] dated July 16, 1959 from WELCH again on the letterhead of "American Opinion" in which he authorizes [redacted] to permit another individual to read the confidential manuscript which he had previously submitted to [redacted]. He describes the manuscript as being entitled "The Politician". He then describes the John Birch Society as a movement which was started quietly by WELCH with a small group of leading industrialists who met with WELCH in Indianapolis during the past December "for the purpose of building strength and understanding to combat this conspiracy--while avoiding publicity to the fullest extent possible, because creating noise is no part of our intention. The movement is growing very rapidly, with extremely encouraging support from a great many patriotic leaders. . ." He indicated at the present time that he did not believe it possible to form regular chapters in Indiana, "for a few months yet", and suggested in the interim contact be maintained by mail.



6) A letter dated July 2, 1959 from WELCH to [redacted] b7C stating that under separate cover he was sending the recipient a manuscript which is not intended for publication at all and which is being put into the hands of a number of good friends and outstanding patriots who would be depended upon to treat the document with confidence as requested and to take reasonable precautions to safe-guard the document while it is in the party's possession. (This manuscript is entitled "The Politician", a copy of which is in the possession of the Chicago Office and will be described later.

7) John Birch Society bulletin for July, the contents of which are self explanatory.

8) A memo on the letterhead of the John Birch Society, Belmont 78, Massachusetts dated July 4, 1959 entitled "A Preliminary and Condensed Statement". This document describes the John Birch Society as an organization of Americans voluntarily joined together to (1) Combat more effectively the evil forces that threaten our country, our lives and our civilization; (2) To prevail upon fellow citizens to start pulling out of the deepening morass of collectivism and to climb to higher levels of individual freedom and responsibility; (3) To restore with brighter lustre and deeper conviction, the faith-inspired morality, the spiritual sense of values and the gloriously humane traditions of which our Western civilization has been built. The long range objective of the Society has been summarized as less government, more responsibility, and a better world. Continuing, the document states that the John Birch Society was founded by WELCH at a meeting in Indianapolis on December 9, 1958 and has working chapters in six states and additional chapters are being formed every week. Its immediate goal is 1,500 working chapters for December 31, 1959. The home chapter maintains contact with members and coordinates and their activities entirely by mail. There are home chapter members in about 20 states and the list includes many of the most influential and highly regarded men and women in the country.

This memo continues setting forth information under the captions "What is The John Birch Society?", "How are Chapters of the Society Formed?", "Why Haven't I Heard More About The John Birch Society?", "How May I Join The John Birch Society?"

9) Item entitled "Application for Membership", listing dues for membership and the conditions under which membership can be obtained.



The unpublished manuscript of WELCH entitled "The Politician" consists of 287 pages of vicious material designed to show that President EISENHOWER was the chosen successor of former President ROOSEVELT and that his present administration is under strong Communist influence. Typical of the statements contained therein is one appearing on page six, last paragraph, which reads as follows:

"The sad truth is that this tyranny was actually saved, in this period of great vulnerability, by just one thing; by the inauguration, on January 20, 1953, of Dwight David Eisenhower as President of the United States. The circumstances of his election made it politically necessary for him to bring many good men into his government. The rationale of his election, and the temper of the American people, made it imperative for a while that he talk a good brand of anti-Communism. But the Communist influences which completely controlled him kept the reins of that control tight and effective. Subtly, cleverly, always proclaiming otherwise and finding specious excuses for what were really pro-Communist actions, these Communist influences made him put the whole diplomatic power, economic power, and recognized leadership of this country to work, on the side of Russia and the Communists, in connection with every problem and trouble spot in their empire. You only have to look at where we stand today, five years later, at exactly these same spots on the scoreboard reviewed above, to realize the truth of this assertion and the extent of this Communist success. It simply was not possible to lose so much ground, so rapidly, to an enemy so inferior, by chance or by stupidity. The explanation calls for a very sinister and hated word, but one which is by no means new in the history of governments or of nations. The word is treason. It is the province of this treatise to show the part played in these treasonous developments, however unwittingly or unwillingly, by Dwight Eisenhower; and how, as the most completely opportunistic and unprincipled politician America has ever raised to high office, he was so supremely fitted for the part."

In view of the length of this manuscript and because Indianapolis and Boston as well as the Bureau may already have a copy of the manuscript no photostats are being submitted herewith.

Should the Bureau desire a photostat to be prepared by this office the original manuscript can again be obtained from  and photostated.

The Bureau is requested to advise of its desires.

b7C



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 9/2/59

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FROM : SAC, BOSTON (100-32899)

SUBJECT: ROBERT H. W. WELCH, JR.  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

100-00-912

Re SAC letter #59-13 dated 3/10/59.

HERBERT A. PHILBRICK, [redacted] Rye Beach, N. H., advised SA [redacted] on 8/10/59 that he has been in frequent contact with WELCH and has prevailed upon WELCH to accept him in the John Birch Clubs as a member at large. He stated that in view of his busy schedule and frequent travel, WELCH agreed to accept him as a "home" member meaning he will not be a member of a specific chapter and will not be required to attend regular meetings. (S) u

b2

b7D

b7C

PHILBRICK furnished the following material received from WELCH, which is enclosed: (S) u

1. August bulletin of the John Birch Society, wherein new full-time salaried coordinators are announced: (S) u

ROBERT PAYSON, Chicago, Ill.  
ORVILLE SHERWOOD, Detroit, Mich.  
THOMAS HILL, Dallas, Texas  
HAROLD MC KINNEY (Part-time), home office, Belmont, Mass.  
DOUGLAS HEINSOHN, Tennessee  
EDWIN MC DOWELL (Part-time), New York City  
FRED PETERSON, St. Petersburg, Fla.

Letter from John Birch Society dated 8/3/59 soliciting attendance at a presentation of the background and purposes of the Birch Society, signed by WILLIS A. CARTO. (S) u

- 2 - Bureau (Encls. 9)
- ① - Chicago (Info)
- 1 - Dallas (Info)
- 1 - Detroit (Info)
- 1 - Knoxville (Info)
- 1 - Memphis (Info)
- 1 - Miami (Info)
- 1 - New York City (Info)
- 2 - Boston (1-100-32899)

FPW:jmh [(1-66-1020 HERBERT A. PHILBRICK)] (S) u

(11)

10/20/59  
Place into  
100-36671-3 index  
PRT

100-36671-3

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 5 1959	
FBI - CHICAGO	

DECLASSIFIED BY 60322/UC ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
97 3-4-4

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY SP-1 GSK/KW 2-19-90



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

BS 100-32899

3. Letterhead of the "Committee Against Summit Entanglements."
4. Letter from Committee Against Summit Entanglements dated 8/7/59 soliciting contributions.
5. Copy of proposed full page ad to be run in 50 major newspapers calling for President EISENHOWER to cancel KHRUSHCHEV's visit to the U. S.
- ✓ 6. Copy of League of Rights Intelligence Survey, published in Melbourne, Australia.
7. Copy of "CARIB; Caribbean Anti-Communist Research and Intelligence Bureau." Edited by CZIEGLER ISTVAN, former Colonel, Royal Hungarian Army and published in Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Republic.
8. Reprint from American Opinion entitled "The Scoreboard."
9. Reprint from American Opinion entitled "There Goes Christmas."

For the information of offices receiving copies of this letter, the Chicago office on 8/27/59 submitted to the Bureau certain documents received by [redacted] Hammond, Ind., from the above-captioned individual on the letterhead of "American Opinion" and from the John Birch Society, Belmont 78, Mass., both of which are endeavors of this individual. The John Birch Society was described as an organization of Americans voluntarily joined together to (1) Combat more effectively the evil forces that threaten our country, our lives and our civilization; (2) To prevail upon fellow citizens to start pulling out of the deepening morass of collectivism and to climb to higher levels of individual freedom and responsibility; (3) To restore with brighter lustre and deeper conviction, the faith-inspired morality, the spiritual sense of values and the gloriously humane traditions of which our Western civilization has been built. The long range objective of the Society has been summarized as less government, more responsibility, and a better world. Continuing, the document states that the John Birch Society was founded by WELCH at a meeting in Indianapolis on 12/9/58 and has working chapters

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

BS 100-32899

in six states and additional chapters are being formed every week. Its immediate goal is 1,500 working chapters for 12/31/59. The home chapter maintains contact with members and coordinates and their activities entirely by mail. There are home chapter members in about 20 states and the list includes many of the most influential and highly regarded men and women in the country.

(4)  
4

PHILBRICK has previously stated that he will advise the Boston office of any activity regarding the John Birch movement. (4) 4

No further action is being taken on this matter at Boston.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, Chicago (100-00)

DATE: September 9, 1959

FROM : Director, FBI (62-104401)

SUBJECT: ROBERT H. W. WELCH, JR.  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

Reurlet 8/27/59.

In accordance with your request, this is to advise that the Bureau is already in possession of a Photostat of the book written by Welch entitled "The Politician"; therefore, it will not be necessary to forward the Bureau a copy of it.

100-00-912

100-36671-4  
924

100-00-977

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 10 1959	
FBI - CHICAGO	

b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-15-80 BY SP-8 BSH/4



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: 10/16/59

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY  
MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING

b7C

On 10/16/59, [REDACTED] former FBI Agent now practicing law at 210 Washington St., Waukegan, Illinois, advised that he was recently invited to join the above society under the following circumstances:

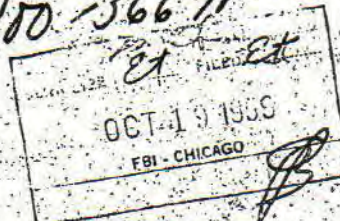
A more or less recent client of his is [REDACTED] Milburn Crook, Illinois, Lake County, wealthy heir to the Marshall Field fortune, attended a meeting of the society in Chicago, Illinois, where he heard ROBERT WEECH, head of the organization, speak. In some manner it was arranged that [REDACTED] would get together a group to hear the 6 hour recording initial address to possible chapter members at his home. This was done about three weeks ago. Present were [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] wealthy milk breeder and official of the Illinois State Racing Board, [REDACTED] Milburn, [REDACTED] Milburn, [REDACTED] of baseball fame who resides at Lake Forest, Illinois, [REDACTED] of Park Ridge who operates SIMPSON's office in Chicago, [REDACTED] Milburn and one [REDACTED] believed to be from the Milburn area. All of these persons are friends of [REDACTED] b7C

One JAMES HOGG (ph), described as an attorney from Evanston, Illinois, and active in Young Republican affairs, was there as a representative of the Society. It was represented that WEECH and 14 other men formed the organization at Indianapolis, Indiana, but the identities of the 14 were not divulged. No decision was made by the group as to whether they would join or establish a chapter until the identities of the 14 were made known.

[REDACTED] said he understood that the membership of the society was semi-secret in that they desired no publicity. He said that from the literature passed out and from the speech, it appeared possibly that the organization, being anti-communist, might have the unofficial sanction or assistance of the Bureau. He desired to know if this was the case. He was informed that the FBI had absolutely no connection with the organization in any way, shape or form.

RKMC

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-15-80 BY SP-1 BSK/142





To: SAC, Chicago (100-0)

From: SA [redacted]

Subject: JOHN BIRCH ASSOCIATION John Birch Society  
I S - C, Misc.

[redacted], Deerme, Illinois (tel. [redacted]), on 12/7/59, telephonically advised SA [redacted] that through her interest in government, captured organization <sup>has</sup> come to her attention. b7C

100/ She stated that captured organization has been described to her as being organized nation wide, with the aim of bringing about less government controls. She advised, however, that the organization is supposed to be very secretive and that all meetings are held in a clandestine manner. She stated further that this organization held a two day seminar, on 11/14-15/59, at an unknown location in Chicago, Illinois.

[redacted] stated that even though the stated aims of captured organization do not appear to be subversive, the clandestine method of operation led her believe that this matter should be brought to the attention of the FBI. JPRW

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-5 RCH/ML

100-36671

100-36671-6

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 7 1959	
FBI - CHICAGO	

JPRW



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: 2/5/60

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY  
IS-X

Re my previous memo recounting information received from former Special Agent [REDACTED] Waukegan, Illinois, to the effect that consideration was being given to the establishment of a chapter of The John Birch Society in Lake County, Illinois. Also see SAC letter 60-5, 1/26/60.

On 2/5/60, [REDACTED] advised that he has heard nothing more on the part of Lake County persons establishing a chapter. He said apparently interest died and the group that was considering it broke up. He said he never saw a list of prominent people who were supposedly behind the national organization, which list was requested from the organization at the time there was some interest. He assumes, therefore, that the list was never received. b7C

[REDACTED] assured SA [REDACTED] he would immediately advise on a highly confidential basis of any information coming to his attention in connection with the above organization.

RKMc

1

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-5 RBY/12

100-36671-7

*Search*  
*match*  
*5-7*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 8 1960	
FBI - CHICAGO	



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC (100-36671)

DATE: February 18, 1969

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY  
IS - X

At approximately 11:30 a.m. this date [REDACTED] Lake Forest, Illinois, telephonically advised that she and her husband had been invited to a meeting of the captioned organization. She did not specify the date or place of the meeting. [REDACTED] requested information concerning the John Birch Society stating that neither she nor her husband had any desire to affiliate with any subversive group.

b7C

[REDACTED] was advised that information in FBI files was confidential and that she could obtain a list of organizations cited by the Attorney General as subversive by writing to the Department of Justice. She was further advised that should she attend the meeting and consider the group to be against the best interests of this country she should contact this office in that regard.

NOTE: No attempt was made to elicit further information concerning the Birch Society from [REDACTED] lest she become aware of the Bureau's interest in this organization. She did mention that a Mr. WELCH was listed on the invitation as head of the Society.

RECOMMENDATION: Advise Bu of active John Birch Society in this area.

Numbers re [REDACTED]

100-36671-8

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-15-80 BY SP-1 [REDACTED]



DIRECTOR, FBI (62-104401)

4/25/60

SAC, CHICAGO (100-36671)

ROBERT H. WELCH, JR.  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

Re SAC letter #60-5 dated 1/26/60 (C).

In connection with re SAC letter which requested that the Bureau be advised in the event chapters of the John Birch Society were organized in field division territories, the following is set forth.

This is to note information which has been received in the Chicago Office during the period October, 1959, to February, 1960, indicating the possible existence of a John Birch Society chapter in the Chicago area or attempts to organize such a chapter. In this connection the following information is noted for the Bureau's information and completion of Bureau files:

On October 16, 1959, [redacted], a former FBI Agent, who is now practicing law at 210 Washington Street, Waukegan, Illinois, advised SA [redacted] that he was recently invited to join the John Birch Society under the following circumstances:

[redacted] stated that a more or less recent client of his is [redacted] of Milburn Creek, Lake County, Illinois, who is also the wealthy heir to the Marshall Field fortune, recently attended a meeting of the John Birch Society in Chicago, Illinois, where he, [redacted] heard ROBERT WELCH, head of the John Birch Society, speak. b7C

[redacted] advised that subsequently in some manner it was arranged that [redacted] would get together with a group to hear a six hour recording of WELCH's address. This gathering of possible chapter members was to take place at [redacted] home. According to [redacted] this was done approximately three weeks prior to his advising the FBI.

2 - Bureau (RM)  
1 - Chicago  
DET:mec  
(3)  
*mec*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2-15-80 BY SP-1 6514/190

100 - 36671 - 93



Concerning this meeting or group that was gathered to hear WELCH's initial address, [ ] advised that present at this gathering were [ ] his wife [ ] a wealthy mink breeder and an official of the Illinois State Racing Board; [ ] of Milburn County, Lake County, Illinois; [ ] of Milburn County; [ ] of baseball fame who resides at Lake Forest, Illinois; [ ] of Park Ridge, Illinois, who also operates [ ] office in Chicago; [ ] of Milburn County; and one [ ] believed to be from the Milburn area. According to [ ] all of these individuals are personal friends of [ ]

b7C

In addition, [ ] advised SA [ ] that one JAMES HOGG (phonetic) attended the meeting as a representative of the John Birch Society. HOGG was described as an attorney from Evanston, Illinois, and an individual who was active in young Republican affairs.

During the meeting at [ ] home, it was represented that ROBERT WELCH and 14 other individuals had formed the John Birch Society at Indianapolis, Indiana. However, the identities of the additional 14 individuals were not divulged at the meeting.

Following the listening of the recording of WELCH, no decision was made by the group as to whether they would join or establish a chapter of the John Birch Society until the identities of the 14 individuals who originally organized the Society with WELCH were made known to them.

[ ] advised SA [ ] on this occasion that he understood that the membership of the Society was semi-secret in that they desired no publicity. He said that from the literature passed out at the meeting and from the speech, it appeared possible that the organization being anti-Communist might have the unofficial sanction or assistance of the Bureau. He stated that he desired to know if this was the case. [ ] was advised that the FBI has absolutely no connection with the organization in any way, shape or form.



On December 7, 1959, [redacted] of [redacted] Gurnee, Illinois, telephonically contacted the Chicago Office and advised SA [redacted] that through her interest in government an organization known as the John Birch "Association" had come to her attention.

[redacted] stated the John Birch Association had been described to her as being organized nation-wide with the aim of bringing about less government controls. [redacted] advised, however, that the organization is supposed to be very secretive and that all meetings are held in a clandestine manner. She advised further that the John Birch Association had held a two-day seminar on November 14-15, 1959, at an unknown location in Chicago. She stated that even though the stated aims of the John Birch Association do not appear to be subversive, the clandestine method of operation led her to believe that the matter should be brought to the attention of the FBI. b7C

On February 5, 1960, former SA [redacted] of Waukegan, Illinois, mentioned above, contacted SA [redacted] and advised that he had heard nothing more on the part of Lake County persons establishing a chapter of the John Birch Society. [redacted] advised that apparently interest died and the group that was considering it had broken up. [redacted] advised that he had never seen a list of prominent people who were supposedly behind the national organization, which list was requested from the national organization at the time there was some interest. [redacted] stated that he assumes, therefore, that the list was never received. [redacted] assured SA [redacted] that he would immediately advise on a confidential basis any information coming to his attention in connection with the John Birch Society.

At approximately 11:30 AM on February 18, 1960, [redacted] of Lake Forest, Illinois, telephonically contacted the Chicago Office and advised SA [redacted] that she and her husband had been invited to a meeting of the John Birch Society. [redacted] stated she desired information concerning this organization, and stated that neither she nor her husband had any desire to affiliate with any subversive organization.



[redacted] was advised of the confidential nature of information in FBI files and in the event she did have any suspicions concerning any organization she could write to the Internal Security Section of the Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., and they would furnish her with a list of organizations which had been cited by the Attorney General of the U.S. pursuant to Executive Order 10450. [redacted] was further advised that in the event she should attend a meeting of any group which she considered to be against the best interest of this country, she should feel free to contact the Chicago Office of the FBI and discuss the matter with this organization.

The afore mentioned incidents are detailed for the Bureau's information to present a resume of activities which indicate that attempts are being made or have succeeded in forming chapters of the John Birch Society referred to in re SAC letter.

For the further information of the Bureau, the identities of individuals mentioned above have been checked through the indices of the Chicago Division, and they failed to reflect any subversive derogatory information concerning these individuals. In addition, no further information is available in the Chicago files which would indicate efforts by subversive elements to take over or use the John Birch Society or its chapters.

As previously noted, the above is being reported for the information of the Bureau and in the event any additional information is received concerning the existence of John Birch Society or chapters, the Bureau will be advised.



June 20, 1960

[redacted]  
Park Ridge, Illinois

b7C

Dear [redacted]

Your letter dated June 13, 1960, has been received, and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, I must advise that the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not issue clearances or nonclearances.

Sincerely yours,

*J. Edgar Hoover*

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1  
6514/14

1 - Chicago

SEE NOTE TO SAC, CHICAGO, PAGE TWO

*CC Match Society - 36671-10*  
*John Birch*

YES  
SERIALIZED  
JUN 21 1960  
FBI - CHICAGO



[REDACTED] b7C

ATTENTION: SAC, CHICAGO

Correspondent advised he has recently been invited to attend meetings of the John Birch Society. Before supporting this organization, he stated he would be interested in knowing the Bureau's opinion of its policies, its activities, its leaders and whether it is worthy of patriotic Americans. Bufiles contain no identifiable information concerning the correspondent.

Information concerning the John Birch Society is contained in SAC Letter 60-5.



Date June 20, 1960

TO SAC:

☐ Albany  
☐ Albuquerque  
☐ Anchorage  
☐ Atlanta  
☐ Baltimore  
☐ Birmingham  
☐ Boston  
☐ Buffalo  
☐ Butte  
☐ Charlotte  
☒ Chicago  
☐ Cincinnati  
☐ Cleveland  
☐ Dallas  
☐ Denver  
☐ Detroit  
☐ El Paso

☐ Honolulu  
☐ Houston  
☐ Indianapolis  
☐ Jacksonville  
☐ Kansas City  
☐ Knoxville  
☐ Little Rock  
☐ Los Angeles  
☐ Louisville  
☐ Memphis  
☐ Miami  
☐ Milwaukee  
☐ Minneapolis  
☐ Mobile  
☐ Newark  
☐ New Haven

☐ New Orleans  
☐ New York City  
☐ Norfolk  
☐ Oklahoma City  
☐ Omaha  
☐ Philadelphia  
☐ Phoenix  
☐ Pittsburgh  
☐ Portland  
☐ Richmond  
☐ St. Louis  
☐ Salt Lake City  
☐ San Antonio  
☐ San Diego  
☐ San Francisco  
☐ San Juan

☐ Savannah  
☐ Seattle  
☐ Springfield  
☐ Washington Field  
☐ Quantico

TO LEGAT:

☐ Bonn  
☐ Havana  
☐ London  
☐ Madrid  
☐ Mexico D. F.  
☐ Ottawa  
☐ Paris  
☐ Rome  
☐ Rio de Janeiro  
☐ Tokyo

RE:

☒ For information      ☐ For appropriate action      ☐ Surep, by \_\_\_\_\_

☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.

☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA \_\_\_\_\_ dated \_\_\_\_\_.

REMARKS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1 GSK/14c

Enclosure(s) 1 *RM*  
Bufile  
Urfile



DIRECTOR, FBI (62-104401)

7/7/60

*JSW*  
SAC, CHICAGO (100-36671)

ROBERT H. W. WELCH, JR.  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

Re SAC letter 60-5 dated 1/23/60 (C).

On June 29, 1960, [ ] former Special Agent, Director, American Security Council, 205 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois, furnished this office a copy of "The Blue Book" of the John Birch Society and of "The Politician," together with one photostat copy each of a four page pamphlet explaining the John Birch Society, and a report dated April 18, 1960, entitled "Santa Barbara Activities of the John Birch Society."

At [ ] request, "The Blue Book" and "The Politician" were returned to him. One copy each of the report of Santa Barbara activities are being furnished herewith as an enclosure to the Bureau and Los Angeles for information.

According to information available to [ ] there b7C  
apparently are three Chicago chapters of the John Birch Society, one of which has been meeting at Glenview, Illinois. The meetings at Glenview are held every other Monday night. Three such meetings have been held which have been attended by approximately 200 people. [ ]  
[ ] Street, Glenview, on expressing doubts about the society at one of the above meetings, was given a copy of "The Politician" and told that that book is given out only when a member of the society is "qualified." After reading the book and expressing her disgust with the material, [ ] was told by STILLWELL J. CONNORS, leader of the meeting, that if she quoted any part of the book at the meeting he would completely deny existence of the book and would discredit her. According to [ ] after the next Glenview meeting, the chapter is to be broken up into anti-Communist "cells" composed of 10 to 20 people, and that the society aims at a million members nationally.

2-Bureau (Encl. 1)  
1-Los Angeles (Encl. 1)  
1-Chicago

JWT:pbn

(4)  
*ph*

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-16514/142



CG 100-36671

Indices of the Chicago Office are negative concerning STILLWELL J. CONNORS and [REDACTED] The b7C  
Bureau will be advised of any additional information received concerning activities of the John Birch Society.



Note: Hand print names legibly; handwriting satisfactory for remainder.

Subject's name and aliases <b>EDUCATION FOR AMERICAN SECURITY SOCIETY; JOHN BURCH SOCIETY; CARDINAL MINOZENTY FOUNDATION</b>		Address of subject <b>OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH, GLENVIEW, ILL.</b>		Character of case <b>15-X</b>	
Complainant [Redacted]		Complainant's address and telephone number <b>GLENVIEW</b>		Complaint received <input type="checkbox"/> Personal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephonic Date <b>7/12/60</b> Time <b>1:25 p</b>	
Subject's Description	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Height	Hair	Build
	Age		Weight	Eyes	Complexion
	Scars, marks or other data <b>na</b>				

b7C

Facts of complaint: [Redacted] SAID ABOVE GROUPS WERE MEETING AT ADDRESS HAVING BEEN FORMED by parishioners with consent of the pastor [Redacted]. They were formed as an entertainment movement cell to study & oppose Communism. At meeting 7/11/60, they were so much dissension in discussing a book by a Robert Welch, that some members insisted Eisenhower and Nixon were Communists. He felt this could be a deliberate move to defeat purpose of groups. He wanted information to determine if groups could be subversive. Told we are fast finding agency & information confidential etc, and he may desire to communicate with I.S.D., D.C.T.

[Redacted] is employed by Saturday Evening Post, exact capacity not disclosed.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-16820

Indices contain no info identifiable with [Redacted] or groups except John Burch Society (100-36671)  
100-36671-12

Action Recommended

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JUL 13 1960	
FBI - CHICAGO	

(advise B)



*Handwritten signature*  
DIRECTOR, FBI (62-104401)

7/21/60

SAC, CHICAGO (100-36671)

ROBERT H. W. WELCH, JR.  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

Remylet 7/7/60, captioned as above.

On July 12, 1960, one [redacted] Glenview, Illinois, who identified himself as an employee of "The Saturday Evening Post", contacted this office and advised that organizations known as "Education For American Security Society", "John Birch Society", and "Cardinal Mindzenty Foundation" are holding meetings at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Glenview, having been formed by parishoners with the consent of the pastor, [redacted] According to [redacted] these groups were formed as anti-Communist cells to study and oppose Communism. At a meeting July 11, 1960, discussion of a book by ROBERT WELCH was had and resulted in so much dissension that some members insisted that President EISENHOWER and Vice President NIXON were Communists.

b7C

Chicago files contain no additional information concerning the above groups or individuals. The Bureau will be advised of any additional information received.

2 - Bureau (RM)  
1 - Chicago

JWT:mcu  
(3)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1 AS/14/142

100-36671-134



# Bares Secrets Of 'Red-Haters'

**They Think Ike  
Is a Communist**

BY JACK MABLEY

**T**HE John Birch Society is an organization of ultra-conservatives, banded together to fight communism in America.

It is not a secret society in the normal sense of the word, but it tries to avoid publicity. Until this moment, it has been successful.

**Jack  
Mabley's  
Story**

The head — and absolute head — of the John Birch Society is Robert Welch, of Boston. The society has members in every state and active chapters in half the states. There are 10 chapters in the Chicago area.

The goal is a million active members.

WITH ITS announced program of fighting communism, the society has attracted thousands of well-meaning, conscientious men and women throughout the country.

It was founded Dec. 8, 1958, in Indianapolis, and named for John Birch, a captain in the U.S. Army, allegedly murdered in cold blood by Chinese Communists 10 days after V-J Day.

Welch gave up his career as a candy company executive to lead the society.

He was educated for four years at the University of North Carolina, two years at the U.S. Naval Academy and two years at Harvard law school. He was a director of the National Association of Manufacturers for seven years.

**Rich Businessmen  
Support the Society**

The society has the backing of wealthy conservative businessmen. Three former presidents of the National Association of Manufacturers are listed by Welch as members of the "council" of the society.

I have seen the appeal of this society in my own suburban community of 18,000. There are four active units in the village. At a meeting two weeks ago tonight, more than 200 persons turned out.

The organization is monolithic, or, to use another word which Welch himself introduced, dictatorial. He is the absolute and unquestioned head, the "hard-boiled, dictatorial and dynamic boss" needed to run such an organization. The quotes are his.

THE ABOVE facts relate closely to the following. I have obtained a copy of a book written by Welch intended for secret distribution only to the leaders of the society.

It is a 302-page, black paperbound book, reproduced by the photo-offset process, with looseleaf binders. The title is "The Politician." The book accuses President Eisenhower of treason.

It flatly calls him a Communist, and for 302 pages attempts to document the charge.

It accuses most of his aides — John Foster Dulles and his brother Allen, Chief Justice Earl Warren, former Defense Secretary Neil McElroy and dozens of others, of being a part of a Communist conspiracy to take over this nation.

**Attacks Ike as  
A 'Dedicated Red'**

Here is an exact quote from the book:

"While I too think that Milton Eisenhower is a Communist, and has been for 30 years, this opinion is based largely on general circumstances of his conduct. But my firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy is based on an accumulation of detailed evidence so extensive and so palpable that it seems to me to put this conviction beyond any reasonable doubt."

He also says of the President: "... there is only one possible word to describe his purposes and actions. That word is treason."

The immediate reaction on confronting this writing is to dismiss it as the work of a crackpot. However, the circumstances of Welch's position and influence dictate further examination.

WHEN I phoned Welch in Boston and asked him about "The Politician," he stated, "That cannot be mentioned." I told him I had read the book. I asked if it accurately reflected his views.

"I have absolutely no comment," he replied.

This will be discussed further tomorrow.

**CHICAGO DAILY NEWS**

RED STREAK Edition

Date JUL 25 1960

Chicago, Illinois

Page 2 Col. 1

Part —

Editor THOMAS COLLINS

CHICAGO OFFICE

COPY SENT TO BUREAU

55-100-36671-14  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 2-19-80 BY sp-1  
JUL 25 1960 b7C  
FBI - CHICAGO



# Probe John Birch/ Group in Wisconsin

A Wisconsin newspaper has begun an investigation of the John Birch Society in that state.

The society, which accuses President Eisenhower of treason and brands him a Communist, has grown to 10 chapters in Wisconsin during the past year, according to the Milwaukee Journal.

Two articles concerning the society appeared in the Daily News in Jack Mabley's column last week.

THE OSTENSIBLE purpose of the organization is to fight communism and influence American politics.

The society was founded by Robert H. W. Welch Jr., 61, of Belmont, Mass., described by the Journal as "a persuasive speaker, conservative and the author of 'The Politician'."

The 302-page privately reproduced volume which Welch has

sent to leaders of the society says former President Franklin D. Roosevelt was used knowingly by the Communist party and ex-President Truman was knowingly used.

## CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

RED STREAK Edition

Date 8-1-60

Chicago, Illinois

Page 12 Col. 6

Part -

Editor THOMAS COLLINS

CHICAGO OFFICE

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DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1 GSI/K/14

COPY SENT TO BUREAU

55 100-36671-15

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FBI - CHICAGO	

b7C

info



*Shapiro*  
DIRECTOR, FBI (62-104401)

8/3/60

SAC, CHICAGO (100-36671)

ROBERT H.W. WELCH, Jr.  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

Remylets 7/7/60 and 7/21/60.

In the Red Streak edition of the "Chicago Daily News", a daily newspaper, dated July 25, 1960, columnist JACK MABLEY in his column entitled "Jack Mabley's Story" reported on the John Birch Society. In his story MABLEY reported that the John Birch Society is an organization of ultra-conservatives banded together under ROBERT WELCH to fight Communism in America.

He stated that the Society has members in every state and active chapters in half the states, with a goal of one million active members. MABLEY quoted parts of "The Politician" in which President EISENHOWER and his top aides are accused of being a part of a Communist conspiracy to take over this nation.

He also reported that because of the circumstances of WELCH's position and influence, his writings in "The Politician" cannot be dismissed as the work of a crackpot. MABLEY stated that when he telephoned WELCH in Boston and asked about "The Politician", WELCH stated "that cannot be mentioned". When informed by MABLEY that he had read the book and asked if it accurately reflected his views, he declined to comment.

MABLEY noted that there presently are ten active chapters of the John Birch Society in the Chicago area. He stated he has seen the appeal of that Society in his own suburban community (Glenview, Illinois), in that there are four active units in that village and more than 200 persons turned out at a meeting two weeks earlier.

The Bureau will be advised of any additional information received in this regard.

*SW*  
2 - Bureau (RM)  
1 - Chicago  
JWT:mec  
(3)

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DATE 2-14-80 BY SP-5 RTH/UC



Note: Hand print names legibly; handwriting satisfactory for remainder.

Subject's name and aliases <b>"THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY"</b>		Address of subject [REDACTED]		Character of case Info concerning 100 - 0 b7C	
Complainant [REDACTED]		Complainant's address and telephone number [REDACTED]		Complaint received <input type="checkbox"/> Personal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephonic Date <u>8/2/60</u> Time <u>8:35 PM</u>	
Subject's Description	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Height	Hair	Build
	Age		Weight	Eyes	Complexion
	Birth date and Birthplace				
Scars, marks or other data [REDACTED] b7C					

Facts of complaint Complainant contacted this office in regards to an article in the 8/1/60, issue of the Chicago Sun Times newspaper. This art. appeared on the editorial page under the name of W.J. Grede.

Comp states that this art states that Pres. Eisenhower, is now a Communist, and that several people in influential places in the last three administrations have been communists. The art. goes on to give brief facts about a book now being sold which gives specific proof of the above being true. Also this art states that a membership of one million is being set for the end of this year, in the "John Birch Society."

[REDACTED] intends to contact the editors of the Chicago American in regards to this article and also to contact "Washington" re this matter.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-6 LSH/142

100-36671-17

Action Recommended

I.C. [REDACTED]

(Agent)

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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AUG 4 1960	
FBI - CHICAGO	



Note: Hand print names legibly; handwriting satisfactory for remainder.

Subject's name and aliases <b>USMC, John Birch Society</b>		Address of subject <b>9th Bn, MC R Central + Ridge Evanston, Ill.</b>		Character of case <b>Info. Concerning</b>	
Complainant <b>[Redacted]</b>		Complainant's address and telephone number <b>[Redacted]</b>		Complaint received <input type="checkbox"/> Personal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephonic Date <b>9/20/60</b> Time <b>10:00 AM</b>	
Subject's Description	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Height	Hair	Build
	Age		Weight	Eyes	Complexion
	Birth date and Birthplace <b>[Redacted]</b>				
Scars, marks or other data <b>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1 GSK/HK</b>					
Facts of complaint Comp. called regarding possibility of joining the John Birch Soc. Had been approached by Sgt. <b>[Redacted]</b> (b) U.S. Marine Corp. Reservist who recently had attended the Anti-Communist rally at <u>Naval Air Station</u> . <b>[Redacted]</b> has shown movies at the reserve meetings re communists & methods to fight w/ States & compared the Birch Soc. to communism as a <u>anti</u> Commie organ. Complainant requesting info as to the principles of the Birch Soc. Comp. willing to furnish any info re organization; or possible contact by F.B.I. Indices negative re. Comp. John Birch Soc: 100-36671 FNU <b>[Redacted]</b> : 100-0- <del>723</del> 7353 (Comp. ident with <u>unsub's</u> ref's <u>unsub's</u> <u>unsub's</u> )					
Action Recommended <b>[Redacted]</b> L.C. (Agent)					

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DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1  
984911

## John Birch Unit Out After PTAs

**Asks Members  
To Get Control**

BY JACK MABLEY

**T**HE members of a nationwide political organization have received the following instructions from their leader:

"Join your local PTA at the beginning of this school year,

**Jack  
Mabley's  
Story**

get your conservative friends to do likewise, and go to work to take it over." This message is in the September bulletin of the John Birch Society. This is the society described in columns here July 26 and 27.

It is an ultra-conservative, anti-Communist group. There is an undetermined number of "cells" in Chicago, including four in my own community, Glenview.

ROBERT Welch of Boston, the authoritarian leader of the Society, has written a book calling President Eisenhower a Communist, being directed by his brother Milton, also called a Communist.

As a member of two PTAs I don't know whether to be amused or alarmed at the prospect of this sedate organization becoming a battleground between leftists and rightists, neither of which I knew existed in any number in our groups.

Welch's directions are quite specific:

"You will run into real battles, against determined leftists who have had everything their own way. But it is time we went on the offensive, to make such groups the instruments of conservative purpose, with the same vigor and determination that the 'liberals' have used the opposition aims."

HE CONTINUES, "When you and your friends get your local PTA group straightened out, move up the ladder as soon as you can to exert a wider influence."

By golly, I might even attend a few PTA meetings to watch this. (I'm a lousy member.)

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DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1  
6SK/HK

*John Birch Society*

"Chicago Daily News"  
9/14/60  
p. 3, Col. 1

100-36671-18

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 14 1960	
FBI - CHICAGO	

*Chicago Daily News 5-2*



DISTRICT INTELLIGENCE OFFICE  
NINTH NAVAL DISTRICT  
610 SOUTH CANAL STREET  
CHICAGO 7, ILLINOIS

ND9:005E:RS:as

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Ser: 03150 -E  
16 September 1960

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Officer in Charge, District Intelligence Office  
NINTH Naval District, Chicago 7, Illinois  
To: Commandant, Ninth Naval District  
Subj: Ninth Naval District Subversive Trends; report of  
Encl: (1) Ninth Naval District Subversive Trends of Current  
Interest, The John Birch Society

1. Enclosure (1), prepared by the Intelligence Branch of DIO-9ND, is  
forwarded for information and retention.

*J. A. Meyertohlen*  
J. A. MEYERTHOLEN

Copy to: (w/encl)

DNI (2 cys)  
DIO-9ND (5)  
DIO-9ND RAs (12)  
DIO-1,3,4,5,6,8,10,11,14ND  
CNARESTRA  
MARTCOM  
Dir9th MCR&RD  
CO,NAS, Glenview  
CO,NAS, Grosse Ile  
CO,NAS, Minneapolis  
CO,NAS, Olathe  
G-2, Fifth Army  
USAF-OSI, 24th Dist, Chicago  
FBI-Chicago *incl (1)*

b7C 20

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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SEP 21 1960	
FBI - CHICAGO	

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DATE 5-1-80 BY 60022 JRS/CLG

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

16 September 1960

NINTH NAVAL DISTRICT

SUBVERSIVE TRENDS OF CURRENT INTEREST

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

An organization worthy of counterintelligence consideration that is currently active in Wisconsin and the vicinity of Chicago, Illinois, is the John Birch Society. The founder and leader of the organization is Robert H. W. WELCH, Jr., 61, a wealthy, retired vice president of the Welch Candy Company, Belmont, Massachusetts. In a brochure signed by Welch and bearing the letterhead of The John Birch Society, Welch described the organization as having been founded by himself and a small group of men from various parts of the country who had come to Indianapolis, Indiana on December 9, 1958 at his invitation. The society's namesake, John Birch, was described by Welch as a young Christian missionary (Fundamentalist Baptist), from a farm near Macon, Georgia, who was in China when the United States entered World War II. According to Welch, John Birch joined Chennault's forces as a volunteer, organized Chennault's intelligence, rose to the rank of captain in the United States Army, and served with unsurpassable bravery and brilliance throughout the war. Welch's biography of Birch continues, "Ten days after V-J day, while in uniform, on a peaceful and official mission for our government, he was brutally murdered in cold blood by our 'allies', the Chinese Communists." Welch commented "You have probably never heard of John Birch, simply because the Communists in Washington planned it that way."

In the same brochure Welch describes the John Birch Society as a group of Americans who have voluntarily joined together: (1) To combat more effectively the evil forces which now threaten our country, our lives, and our civilization; (2) to prevail upon our fellow citizens to start pulling out of the deepening morass of collectivism, and then climb up the mountain to higher levels of individual freedom and responsibility than man has ever achieved before; and (3) to restore, with brighter lustre and deeper conviction, the faith-inspired morality, the spiritual sense of values, and the ennobling aspirations, on which our western civilization has been built. The long-range objective of the Society has been summarized as less government, more responsibility, and a better world.

Reportedly Welch describes himself as born and educated in North Carolina of Baptist early American pioneer stock circa 1720. He maintains his education includes four years at the University of North Carolina, two years at the U. S. Naval Academy, and two years at Harvard School of Law. His business career reportedly included Vice President of Sales and Advertising of Welch Candy Company, member of Board of Directors of the National Association of Manufacturers for seven years, three years as Regional Vice President of NAM, and two years as Chairman Educational Advisory Committee of NAM, in addition to directorships on boards of several U. S. Corporations.

Robert Welch has established a Home Chapter of the John Birch Society at Belmont, Massachusetts and is currently engaged in establishing Chapters

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DATE 5-4-94 BY 6028:DC/76

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Enclosure (1)



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

throughout the United States and enlisting new members. Although Welch has not disclosed the current strength of the Society, reportedly the organization has set a membership goal of one million members. The Home Chapter maintains contact with members and coordinates their activities entirely by mail. Full-time staff men, called Coordinators supervise local chapters and engage in the formation of new chapters. A series of tapes and motion picture films narrated and recorded by Welch supplement the recurring Society Bulletins and basic publications such as The Blue Book of the John Birch Society, The Scoreboard, and American Opinion, all authored by Robert Welch.

One publication authored by Welch that does not receive wide dissemination except to coordinators and leaders within the society is The Politician. The Politician is a 302-page, black paperbound book, reproduced by the photo-offset process, with looseleaf binders. A copy of The Politician was reviewed at DIO-9ND and the general tenor is critical of such national leaders as President Eisenhower, General George C. Marshall, Allen and John F. Dulles, and Presidents Truman and Roosevelt. In various passages he accuses President Eisenhower of being a conscious Communist agent reporting to his Communist superior Dr. Milton Eisenhower. Other government leaders are disposed of as either conscious Communists or as tools and dupes of the Communists. A good example of the literary style employed by Welch is illustrated by quoting from page 17 of his book. .... "I defy anybody, who is not actually a Communist himself, to read all of the known facts about his career and not decide that since at least sometime in the 1930's George Catlett Marshall has been a conscious, deliberate, dedicated agent of the Soviet conspiracy." .... In the same manner President Eisenhower is attacked throughout the book. On one occasion he questioned the personal morality of President Eisenhower and on another occasion he inferred that while Supreme Commander of Allied Forces, Eisenhower was drunk and unavailable on the night of the German Ardennes offensive in December of 1944.

b7C

Stilwell J. Connor, 6657 N. Sioux Avenue, Chicago, Illinois and his wife have been particularly active coordinators for the John Birch Society in the Chicago area and specifically at Glenview, Illinois.

[redacted] of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Glenview has cooperated with Society Coordinators by calling special parish meetings for the purpose of organizing local chapters of the Society and extending the use of church buildings for holding such meetings. One such meeting held on July 11, 1960 attracted about 200 citizens to hear Connor present the views of Robert Welch via sound films and literature. One member of the audience asked about Welch's book The Politician. Connor vehemently denied the existence of such a book whereupon the interested spectator produced the book and proceeded to read appropriate quotations for the benefit of Connor and his audience. Connor then admitted the existence of the book but reportedly said that the book was only for those who were properly guided within the Society. Connor reportedly remarked that to make the book available to the general membership without proper guidance would be analogous to permitting a first year medical student attempt to cure cancer. On another occasion a potential recruit of the Society was disillusioned after reading The Politician and expressed her disgust to Connor who cautioned her that if

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she ever revealed the nature of the book he would promptly discredit her and deny the existence of the book and its contents.

✓ The president of the village of Glenview, Illinois, (population 18,000), is also a columnist for a major Chicago newspaper wherein he critically examined the John Birch Society in two successive columns. In the July 31st 1960 edition of The Clarion, parish paper of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Glenview, Illinois, the following comment was noted: "Despite the 'revelations' of our good neighbor and village president, Jack Mabley, last week about Robert Welch, leader of the John Birch Society against communism, a sizeable number of parishioners have decided to form four sizeable John Birch Society Chapters here in Glenview. The pastor here and many parishioners had read Welch's book The Politician weeks ago and they are of the opinion that all Welch wrote was tantamount to saying simply that our leaders in this country for the past 16 years and more have been acting as if they were out and out reds and traitors. Else how come the reds have been so successful in the cold war? If they find any galling fascistic leanings in the group, it goes without saying these parishioners can always switch their support to the Cardinal Mindzenty Group, or the Anti-Communist League of America or the Freedom Foundation or any one of several such groups of thoroly aroused and alarmed Americans. But for the nonce the John Birch Society is the largest and ablest group and the best calculated to face up to the red, pink or one-world challenge in this country. Other parishioners have formed independent groups. For info, phone the rectory." ✓✓✓

✓✓ DIO-9ND COMMENT: Organizations such as the John Birch Society pose peculiar problems of criticism since the organization stands for many things attractive to loyal and upright American citizens, namely, patriotism, anti-communism and lofty codes of morals and ethics. However, there is an element of deceit in the manner of recruiting people with persuasively narrated films by Robert Welch and abundant references to ethical values while deliberately withholding the irresponsible views of Welch as expressed in The Politician from the general membership of the Society. It is entirely possible that this tactic is employed to lend a "forbidden" aura to The Politician so as to achieve maximum impact of Welch's views by either deliberate or fortuitous "revelation". The justification that such information should be withheld until the member is qualified and ready to fight communism is specious and open to serious question. Mr. Welch's insistence on monolithic discipline and leadership should give some pause for thought before one completely dedicates time, energy and support to his organization whose future direction and policies are guided only by the whim and caprices of one man. His Communist accusations and statements in The Politician are direct, blunt and unequivocal thus eliminating the rationalization that Welch's statements should not be taken literally and that the people he accuses of being communists are not really communists but only have pursued policies that made them look like communists. Some Society recruits are repelled by the contents of The Politician and have dissociated themselves from the organization, but others feel that the main ✓

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

objective of anti-communism is overriding and either rationalize or ignore The Politician. Moreover, the Society offers no detailed program or solution to Communism except for vague generalities and negative criticisms. Specific programs of action appear to be on an ad hoc basis through Welch's monthly bulletins. The John Birch Society has been growing in the Ninth Naval District with apparently four chapters in Glenview, Illinois, four chapters in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, one each in Wauwatosa, Green Bay, DePere, Oshkosh, Appleton and Eagle River, Wisconsin. Information in DIO-9ND files indicate the organization is active in at least twenty states.

(Source: DIO-9ND FILES)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : SAC (100-36671)

DATE: 9-26-60

FROM : IC [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY  
Information concerning,  
(Internal Security)

b7C

On 9-15-60 [REDACTED] Winnetka, Illinois appeared at this office. [REDACTED] stated that she had come to this office in search of information regarding the JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY and ROBERT WELCH, whom she identified as the head of the group.

[REDACTED] stated that she and a friend (name not mentioned) had been contacted by a member of the SOCIETY and asked if they would like to join the group. They neither said they would or wouldn't. Several days later she read a column in the Daily News written by JACK MABLEY. This article has made her suspicious of this organization. Complainant stated that she believes the following people are members of cells of this SOCIETY:

[REDACTED] Winnetka, Illinois  
[REDACTED] Winnetka, Illinois  
[REDACTED] Glencoe, Illinois  
[REDACTED] Lake Bluff, Illinois

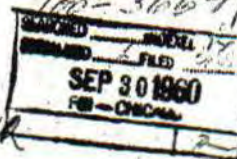
[REDACTED] was advised that this writer could not give her any information regarding this organization because of the confidential nature of the Bureau's records. She was further advised that she might write to the Department of Justice, Attention: Subversive Organization Section, Internal Security Division, Washington, D. C. to determine if there is any information available on this organization.

A search of indices reveals the organization is the subject of 100-36671. The names of the possible members of the organization and ROBERT WELCH were not searched in the indices. Indices negative re [REDACTED]

It is recommended that this memo be placed in file for information purposes.

NEW

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-14-80 BY SP-1 GSK/KR





Note: Hand print names legibly; handwriting satisfactory for remainder.

Subject's name and aliases <b>JOHN BURKE'S SOCIETY</b>		Address of subject		Character of case	
Complainant [redacted]		Complainant's address and [redacted] Glenview, ILL, PA 4-3090		Complaint received <input type="checkbox"/> Personal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephonic Date <u>10/5/60</u> Time <u>2:45 pm</u>	
Subject's Description	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Height	Hair	Build
	Age		Weight	Eyes	Complexion
	Scars, marks or other data				
Facts of complaint					
<p>Complainant advised that about two months ago she attended a meeting of subject society held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Catholic Church, Glenview, Illinois. The meeting was conducted by FNU CONWAY. The purpose of the society is supposedly anti-communist in nature but [redacted] feels that it is a subversive organization. The basis for her feeling is a book published and written by the founder of the society, ROBERT WELCH, Boston, Mass. [redacted] has read this book and says that it says flatly that President EISENHOWER and the late JOHN FOSTER DULLES were Communists. [redacted] does not have the book now and would not tell from whom she received it. This book is called "THE BLACK BOOK" AND IS ONLY given to regular members of the society. "THE BLUE BOOK" is passed out at meetings of the society and is nothing like the BLACK BOOK. [redacted] called because she is convinced that the society is subversive and because today she was talking to a clerk in a drug store about it who told her that he had called the FBI about it and the FBI had "given it a clean bill of health". [redacted] could not identify the clerk.</p>					
<p>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE <u>2-14-80</u> BY <u>SP-1 LGS/142</u></p> <p>100-36671</p> <p>SEARCHED [ ] SERIALIZED [ ] INDEXED [ ] FILED [ ] OCT 10 1960 FBI - CHICAGO</p>					
<p>Action Recommended</p> <p>[redacted] (Agent)</p>					

b7C



August 1, 1960

Mr. R. Tichen  
U. S. Attorney  
219 South Clark  
Chicago, Illinois

Attention: James E. Parsons

Dear Mr. Parsons:

In accordance with our telephone conversation of this morning, I am putting my request to you in writing.

As I mentioned, I have been asked to join an organization in Glenview which ostensibly claims to be anti-communist. The name of the group is the John Birch Society headed by a man named Robert Welch who, I understand, works out of Boston, Massachusetts. The organization was formed in 1958 and from what I have learned so far, numerous branches of this society can be found in many cities.

The first two meetings I attended were certainly anti-communist in tone and it appeared that this was a legitimate organization whose principal aims were the advancement of our democratic way of life and the repulsion of any communistic infiltration that might occur. In the third meeting however, I noted that the people conducting the talk began questioning whether the democratic process was the best form of government. Statements such as, "Dwight D. Eisenhower is now a member of the Communist Party and his brother, Milton has been a card carrying member of the Communist Party for the past 30 years", have been tossed off with conviction. Mr. Welch has printed a 300 page document which his supporters say conclusively proves these statements. When asked to review such a book, the people at this gathering were told, "they were not ready for it".

I know nothing more about the organization than what I have described above or what might have been indicated in 2 newspaper articles written by Jack Mabley of the Chicago Daily News last Monday and Tuesday. It certainly seems to me that if this organization is legitimate it bears close watching. As far as I know, Robert Welch is the sole guiding force of the John Birch Society.

Admittedly, all loyal American citizens should be concerned with the dangers of the communist conspiracy and I certainly have tried to keep abreast of whatever is going on in that line for the past several years. I do not think

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DATE 3-4-84 BY 60321/UCS

100-36671-23  
SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
OCT 11 1960  
FBI - CHICAGO

b7C



Mr. James E. Parsons

-2-

August 1, 1962

that the approach being used by the John Birch Society is one that should be condoned. If this is a fascist group of any kind, I certainly would appreciate hearing from you. It appears to be a radical type of movement which appears to be gaining many followers.

Any reply to this letter can be made to me at [redacted]  
Glenview, Illinois. Many thanks for your help.

Very truly yours,

b7C

[redacted]

DPM:jn



AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO

b7C

Elk Grove Village, Ill.



25 YEARS  
SOCIAL SECURITY  
IN AMERICA

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
212 W. Monroe St.  
Chicago, Illinois

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY sp. # 654/11



United States Department of Justice

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

450 UNITED STATES COURT HOUSE

CHICAGO

(4)

October 10, 1960

IN REPLY REFER TO INITIALS  
AND NUMBER  
DSW:cmf

Mr. Julius M. Lopez, Jr.  
Special Agent in Charge  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
536 South Clark Street  
Chicago 5, Illinois

Dear Mr. Lopez:

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter received  
by this office from [redacted] concerning  
the John Birch Society. This communication is forward-  
ed for your information and whatever action you deem  
appropriate.

b7C

Very truly yours,

R. TUCKER

United States Attorney

Enclosure (1)

3-44-60

Pres. 526 11/10/60

*Handwritten notes:*  
action  
11/10/60

*Handwritten notes:*  
11/10/60  
11/10/60



20 September 1960

Elk Grove Village, Ill.

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
212 West Monroe Street  
Chicago, Illinois

b7C

Subject: Request For Information

Gentlemen:

I would appreciate what ever information you have available on the aims, leadership, and connections of an organization known as The John Birch Society with headquarters in Belmont, Massachusetts. If possible, I would like the opinion of your bureau of this organization.

I have some literature from the above organization and the contents truly sound anti-communist. The John Birch Society does not appear on the list of subversive organizations published by the Attorney General. However, since the communists themselves have frequently used front organizations with names which sounded anti-communist, I thought it best to check before joining.

I would appreciate your reply at your earliest opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted Signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1 GSI/KC

*[Handwritten initials and notes]*



100-36671

536 South Clark Street  
Chicago 5, Illinois  
October 27, 1960

[redacted]  
Elk Grove Village, Illinois

b7C

Dear [redacted]

This will acknowledge your letter of September 20, 1960, in which you inquire concerning the John Birch Society.

Your interest in writing is appreciated; however, I must advise you that the jurisdiction of the FBI does not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character of any individual or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal government and information in our files is confidential in nature and may be disclosed only to those persons and agencies authorized to receive it.

I thank you for your interest in writing to us and wish you to know that we would be most happy to receive any information you may think would be of interest to us.

Sincerely yours,

J.M. LOPEZ  
Special Agent in Charge

JWT/mab  
(2)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-6 GSI/42

100-36671



Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Algae

Birth Date

Birthplace

Race

	Sex
	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Male  
☐ Female

☐ Main Criminal Case Files Only☐ Restrict to Locality of

**Criminal References Only**

	Main Subversive (If no Main, list all Subversive References)
1	[REDACTED]
2	[REDACTED]
3	[REDACTED]
4	[REDACTED]
5	[REDACTED]
6	[REDACTED]
7	[REDACTED]
8	[REDACTED]
9	[REDACTED]
10	[REDACTED]
11	[REDACTED]
12	[REDACTED]
13	[REDACTED]
14	[REDACTED]
15	[REDACTED]
16	[REDACTED]
17	[REDACTED]
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48	[REDACTED]
49	[REDACTED]
50	[REDACTED]
51	[REDACTED]
52	[REDACTED]
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54	[REDACTED]
55	[REDACTED]
56	[REDACTED]
57	[REDACTED]
58	[REDACTED]
59	[REDACTED]
60	[REDACTED]
61	[REDACTED]
62	[REDACTED]
63	

☐ Main Criminal (If no Main, list all Criminal References)

Remarks

Remarks

1

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-16

Squad	Player	Age	Position	Height	Weight	Number	Goals	Assists	Yellow Cards	Red Cards
1	[Name]	[Age]	[Position]	[Height]	[Weight]	[Number]	[Goals]	[Assists]	[Yellow Cards]	[Red Cards]

Extension	
-----------	--

File No.

b7C

Searched by

Consolidated by

Reviewed by

### File Review Symbols

1 - Identical  
NI - Not identical

7 - Not identifiable  
U - Unavailable reference



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : SAC (56-121)

DATE: 1-16-61

FROM :

SUBJECT:

INFORMATION CONCERNING;  
Election Law Matters

On 1/16/61 [ ] USMC Reserve Training Center, 500 W. 36th St., CG, Dr 3-2070 telephonically contacted this office re subject.

[ ] advised he was seeking information concerning indictment of [ ] by a Federal Grand Jury on 1/12/61 on a charge of publishing and distributing subversive literature to a candidate in the last election in November, 1960. [ ] would also like, if possible, information re the JOHN BIRCH SOC ETY, 100-36671, of which [ ] is a member.

[ ] advised that he is seeking above information for an official report to be made to USMC, Kansas City in connection with having [ ] removed as a member of the USMC Reserve. b7C

The writer advised [ ] he would have an Agent contact him re this matter.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1 GSH/140

(1)-100-36671

CHICAGO

re solve with [ ]  
[ ]



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

DATE: January 16, 1961

TO : SAC (100-36671)

FROM : SA [redacted]

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY  
Information Concerning

b7C

On January 16, 1961, [redacted] requested information as to whether the John Birch Society, Christian Anti-Communist Crusade, and Cardinal Wyszynski Society were anti-Communist organizations. She was advised that the files of the FBI were confidential and that the FBI could not comment on the nature of the above organizations.

She stated the reason for her calling was her interest in anti-communist activities and that one [redacted] was to call on her in regard to the above organizations and explain the purpose to her.

The above submitted for information and any action deemed advisable.

RAD/  
(1)

*RD*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1 BSK/HLD

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 17 1961	
FBI - CHICAGO	

*W*



# The Wrong Way To Fight Reds!

## Birch Society Is Recruiting

BY JACK MABLEY

**T**HE John Birch Society is going to Chicago area churches, chambers of commerce and civic organizations, to recruit members.

"Come, join us in the fight against Communists," members plead.

### Jack Mabley's Story

Inasmuch as 99.9999 per cent of us are anti-Communist, they obviously have something to

sell. But the conscientious citizens asks, "Is this the best way to fight communism? What is the John Birch Society?"

Since I am asked this often, because I wrote two columns about it last July, I will tell what I know about the society.

### Group Founded In Indianapolis

It was founded in Indianapolis in 1958 by a group of businessmen led by Robert Welch, a former candy manufacturer of Boston.

Welch, by his own words, is the absolute boss of the society, which was named after a U.S. Army captain murdered by Chinese Reds.

This organization must be run by a "hard-boiled, dictatorial" and dynamic boss," says Welch, and he is it.

WELECH HAS written a privately printed book called

"The Politician." It was circulated only among the top, trusted leaders of the John Birch Society.

It is impossible for an ordinary member to see a copy of the book, or even get acknowledgment that it exists. I have read it, and will vouch that it exists.

In the book, Welch calls Dwight D. Eisenhower a traitor and a Communist.

He says that John Foster Dulles and his brother, Allen, head of the Central Intelligence Agency, and Chief Justice Earl Warren and former defense secretary Neil McElroy and most of the leaders of the Eisenhower administration, are or were part of a Communist conspiracy to take over this nation.

### Some Excerpts From the Book

This is from Welch's book: "While I too think that Milton Eisenhower is a Communist, and has been for 30 years, this opinion is based largely on general circumstances of his conduct.

"But my firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy is based on an accumulation of detailed evidence so extensive and so palpable that it seems to put this conviction beyond any reasonable doubt."

He says of Mr. Eisenhower: "... there is only one possible word to describe his purpose and actions. That word is treason."

WE REPRINT these words only because they are totally idiotic and because people who are asked to follow Welch are

not aware of what really is in his mind.

The Communist threat in this country is real enough. The country needs the energy and interest of every citizen who will work to counteract the Communist evil.

But the unbelievable irresponsibility espoused secretly by Welch can bring only scorn and harm to real anti-Communist work.

(Mabley is on WBBM nightly at 8.)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1 GSK/42

## CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

RED STREAK

Edition

Date JAN 30 1961

Chicago, Illinois

Page 3 Col. 1

Part

Editor THOMAS COLLINS

CHICAGO OFFICE



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : SAC, (100-36671)

DATE: February 23, 1961

FROM : CLEARN [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY;  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

[REDACTED] Park Ridge, Illinois, telephone number [REDACTED] telephonically contacted this office on February 23, 1961. He advised that he holds a PhD in chemistry and is employed as a patent attorney.

He stated that he was calling with reference to the JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY. A representative of that group recently contacted the church of which he is a member and tried to obtain permission to hold meetings in the church hall. The representative had made mention that the SOCIETY was holding a meeting in the American Legion Hall, Park Ridge on February 21, 1961. [REDACTED] said that he and several other church members decided to attend and determine the objectives of the organization before allowing it to hold meetings in the church hall. b7c

He said that the meeting was conducted by a ROBERT J. DENNIS, [REDACTED] Park Ridge, Illinois. DENNIS spoke on the aims of the JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY in fighting communism. He questioned whether a Democracy could effectively fight communism. And he told the group that the aims of the JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY was the only possible way to fight the communists.

[REDACTED] stated that because of this attitude he feels that this organization might be trying to undermine the minds of the U.S. Citizens into thinking that a Democracy couldn't effectively combat communism. [REDACTED] stated that he had grown up in Germany under the Hitler movement. He stated that the JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY appeared to be attacking the minds of individuals in a way similar to that used by HITLER. He said that maybe there wasn't much to his belief, however, having become a citizen through naturalization, he does not feel that he should loose any of the rights given him. And that it is his American duty to report this possible threat to our government. He also said that he doubted very much if the JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY would be allowed to conduct meetings in their church hall. D

Jew

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2-19-80

SP-1 ASK/42

43



CG 100-36671

A search of the indices reveals that the JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY is the subject of 100-36671. No identifiable information in the indices re [redacted] The indices revealed a file, [redacted] in which a [redacted] is the subject, however, there is insufficient information to identify him with the [redacted] mentioned in this memorandum. b7C

It is recommended that this memorandum be placed in 100-36671 for information purposes.



SAC, CHICAGO (135-508)

January 31, 1961

SA [redacted]

T. M. PUBLISHERS, INC.  
67 West Division  
Chicago, Illinois

The following data is recorded for future reference and information.

On 1/18/60 at 2:25 p.m. [redacted] Security Officer, captioned organization, telephone number MO 4-5030, advised he had reason to believe that an employee of T. M. Publishers, (TM), is associated with the John Birch Association. However, he said he had no proof of this at the present time and declined to furnish the name of the suspected individual. b7C

[redacted] desired to know if this individual's employment at TM and connection with the John Birch Association would affect their Government security clearance and whether the John Birch Association is on the Attorney General's subversive list. He said he has a copy of the latter list but it is not current. [redacted] said T. M. has had a "Secret" security clearance but has no classified contracts at this time. The company will probably have such contracts in the near future.

[redacted] was advised that the FBI has no control or jurisdiction over security clearances and suggested that he take the matter up with the agency supervising the classified contracts. He was also advised that the John Birch Association is not on the Attorney General's subversive list. He was advised how to obtain a current list.

It is noted that T. M. Publishers, Inc., 936 North Michigan Blvd. is a Procli facility with the Navy being the interested agency. [redacted] b7C b7D

[redacted] is carried as a [redacted] by the Chicago Office.

1 - 100-36671 (John Birch Association)

WMP:jjg  
(2)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1 6SK/42

100-36671-31  
SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED



CG 135-503

Recommendation:

Although [ ] advised he would recontact the FBI if he obtained definite information regarding the person under suspicion, it is recommended that [ ] be contacted personally regarding the matter and the individuals name obtained since T.M. Publishers, Inc., is a Procll facility. b7C



February 20, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
536 S. Clark St.  
Chicago, Illinois

Gentlemen:

Subject: Information on Books, Booklets, and  
a Society.

In these trying times, when everyone has been alerted to the threat of Communism through their devious methods; one has to be sure that the books, booklets, and meetings one attends are sponsored by groups that would be sanctioned by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This is a problem that I have encountered, and would appreciate a reply that the material that was given to me to read is not Communist sponsored, nor is the meeting that I attended at a mutual friends home is not Communist sponsored either.

1. The John Birch Society, is a group dedicated to the fight against Communism.
  - a. Is this group, or groups under the sanction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or any other National Group recognized to fight Communism?
  - b. Are these meetings held in the homes of mutual friends a legitimate way to recruit persons to fight Communism?
2. Books or literature given to individuals from meetings of this nature, such as "Nine Men Against America" by Rosalie M. Gordon, published by America's Future, Inc., are these recognized by the F.B. I. as reading matter for the American that is seeking to fight Communism?
  - a. Are the motion pictures that are shown at these meetings true to what is expected of things to come?
  - b. "Keynes Harvard", the book is brought up continually, whereby these persons state that the Kennedy Administration and staff is leaning toward a Socialistic State, does this concur with your Philosophy?

These are queries that are asked by a very good American, who has no intent to follow "pink" tendencies, nor to be the goal of Communist teaching; if a reply is possible the answers to the above questions will be appreciated. Certain aspects of these meetings, reading matter and pictures have placed a doubt in my mind; your reply will ease my troubled mind.

Sincerely your,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1 GSK/140

Chicago 45, Illinois

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED

FEB 27 1961  
FBI - CHICAGO



536 South Clark  
Chicago, Illinois  
February 23, 1961

100-36671

[redacted]  
Chicago 45, Illinois

b7C

Dear [redacted]

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 20, 1961, wherein you make inquiries concerning certain organizations and as to the legitimacy of same.

Please be advised that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is precluded by Executive Order from furnishing information of a confidential nature to any individual except those duly authorized to receive this information. I am sure you will understand the need for such precaution as a contrary order would greatly impede the work in the subversive field of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

I might suggest, however, that you may desire to obtain the list of organizations appearing on the Attorney General's Subversive List. This can be obtained by writing the following: "Department of Justice, Attention: Subversive Organizations Section, Internal Security Division, Washington, D.C."

If you have further inquiries in this matter please feel free to direct them to this office.

Very truly yours,

JAMES H. GALE  
Special Agent in Charge

1 - Addressee  
1 - Chicago  
CNF:JVK  
(2)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1 LSK/HR

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_

53



**Mabley's Report**

# How Jack Lifted Lid on Hate Society

BY JACK MABLEY

The public exposure of the John Birch society, a national anti-communist, anti-democracy organization, began with a phone call to this columnist last July.



JACK MABLEY

The exposure was climaxed last Wednesday in the United States Senate when Sen. Young of North Dakota denounced the organization, and put into the Congressional Record this reporter's original exposure.

The call in July was from a man who had been persuaded to attend a meeting of a suburban "cell." He had stood up in the meeting and asked about a book written by the society's leader, Robert Welch, of Boston.

In the book, Welch charged that President Eisenhower and most of the top officials around him were Communists. He described Eisenhower's action as "treason."

THE MAN WHO stood up was derided and scorned. He was told he had no business seeing the book, that for anyone other than a leader of the society to have the book was "like telling a first year medical student to go out and cure cancer."

I conducted an investigation of this secret society. It was ascertained that Welch was a fanatical retired Boston candy manufacturer.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1

LS/416

## THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

DIAMOND FINAL Edition

Date MAR 13 1967

Chicago, Illinois

Page 1 Col. 1

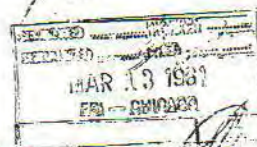
Part -

Editor LUKE P. CARROLL

CHICAGO OFFICE

COPIES SENT TO BUREAU

3X



*March John Birch Society*



He was so persuasive that he talked three former presidents of the National Association of Manufacturers into serving on the society's board.

I wrote two articles which were published, not by coincidence, on the opening days of the Republican national convention, when most of the nation's conservative leaders were in Chicago. I was then working for the Daily News.

IMMEDIATELY ALL copies of Welch's book, titled "The Politician," were taken out of circulation.

When questioned, Welch insisted that if it existed, it was merely a long letter to friends. He neglected to note this long letter had a title, was printed, had hard covers, and was 302 pages long. Some letter.

The Milwaukee Journal, with help from this reporter, was next to print an exposure of the Birch group. The publicity, however, did not stop its growth.

It thrived in the west and southwest. It was in these areas that attacks on responsible leaders were most vicious and harmful. To oppose the society was to invite smearing as a "Communist."

THE SOCIETY WAS condemned almost without exception by newspapers in the west and southwest. The fight attracted nationwide attention. The sordid story of Welch and the growth of his group was detailed last week in Time magazine.

Sen. Young, in putting into the Congressional Record the column of July 26, told the Senate:

"I hesitated to give further publicity to this dastardly attack [on the President].

"It is unbelievable that any sane person would make such accusations against President Eisenhower, who has devoted his life to the service of this country and who led all of the allied forces in the European theater during World War II.

"The only reason why I am reluctantly giving publicity to the vicious charges made by the leaders of this society is that I believe it will serve to give needed information to people in my state and elsewhere who may be influenced by this organization."

It must now be determined whether further exposure is necessary, or whether the society will sink to the oblivion it deserves.

[Mabley is on WBBM at 8 week nights].



SAC  
ASAC  
CC  
ASST CC  
STENO SOP  
C-1  
C-2

(D) THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY (JBS) -- SAC Letter 59-13 (F), dated March 10, 1959, set out background data concerning Robert H. Welch, Jr., a candy manufacturer of Belmont, Massachusetts, and his anticommunist campaign. SAC Letter 60-5 (C), dated January 26, 1960, advised that in December, 1958, Welch created an organization called "The John Birch Society," the long-range objective of which has been summarized as "less government, more responsibility, and a better world."

Recently, a printer in Santa Barbara, California, advised he had received an order from JBS to print 10,000 copies of my poster, "What You Can Do To Fight Communism." The JBS also requested the printer to print an addition on the poster to the effect that this statement was being distributed under the auspices of the JBS. We have advised the printer that the FBI has not given approval for JBS to reproduce the poster nor could the FBI approve of the addition to the poster reflecting its distribution by JBS.

In view of this irresponsible organization's attempt to capitalize on the FBI's prestige, no Bureau publications of any kind are to be made available to JBS or to any of its representatives. You should be alert to the possibility that this group may attempt to reproduce Bureau publications and distribute them giving the impression that the FBI sanctions JBS. Immediately advise the Bureau of any such information coming to your attention. Further, any requests by JBS to reproduce Bureau publications should be turned down.

3/21/61

SAC LETTER NO. 61-14

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6516/142

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MAR 23 1961	
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# John Birch Society Rebuffed

## 'Red' Charges

### Called False

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Milton R. Young, (R-N.D.) has told the Senate that leaders of an ultra-conservative and semi-secret group operating in many states have falsely accused former President Eisenhower of being a Communist.

Young said the organization known as the John Birch Society claims to be fighting Communism and has accused Young himself of "being about every kind of scoundrel, including a Communist or pro-Communist."

He said the leader of the Birch Society is Robert Welch, a retired business executive of Belmont, Mass.

DEMOCRATIC leader Mike Mansfield of Montana lauded Young for his denunciation of the society. He said he has heard of the group in his own state and "something is wrong somewhere."

Young said the society has organized cells in North Dakota among "some of the most able and influential people in each community."

Young said most of the criticism by the society "is leveled not against liberal public officials but against the more middle-of-the-road and even conservative Republicans."

"TO LABEL some of our most loyal and dedicated people as Communists plays right into the hands of the Communists," he added.

Young placed in the Congressional Record articles from Chicago Daily News of July 26 and from Time magazine dealing with the Birch Society and Welch.

## CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

RED STREAK Edition

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Page 18 Col. 8

Part -

Editor JOHN STANTON

CHICAGO OFFICE

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65K/142

See  
Report  
John Birch Society  
5-2



## Mabley's Report

# Here's Proof Welch DID Call Ike 'Red'

...with his knowledge and acquiescence, at the price he consciously paid for their making him president. In the third stage, in my own firm opinion, the Communists have one of their own actually in the presidency. For this third man, Eisenhower, there is only one possible word to describe his purpose and his actions. That word is treason.

268

The Politician

ACCUSING PAGE FROM WELCH BOOK  
Mabley documents case against author.

BY JACK MABLEY

This column today offers documented proof that Robert Welch, leader of the John Birch society, has accused President Eisenhower of being a Communist, and of treason.



JACK MABLEY

These despicable allegations are made in the suppressed book, "The Politician," written by Welch. Since the John Birch society was exposed by this writer last July 25, Welch has called in all copies of the book, and has virtually denied its existence. Reproduced above is a section of the book which contains the most scurrilous statements. The book itself is 302 pages long, with offset type, and hard covers. It was circulated only among the top lieutenants in Welch's society.

THE JOHN BIRCH society is an "anti-communist" organization. Welch is the absolute dictator. The society is gaining a foothold in most large cities. In Chicago and suburbs there are believed to be thousands of members in various "cells."

They have adopted many communist techniques. They form front organizations, using different names. They infiltrate clubs and school groups and similar organizations. They organize letter-writing campaigns.

They are responsible for vicious attacks on patriotic citizens who dare disagree with their methods.

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## THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

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Chicago, Illinois

Page 1 Col. 1

Part -

Editor LUKE P. CARROLL

CHICAGO OFFICE

DO NOT SEND TO BUREAU

10-1-61

B-2

27



Sen. Milton R. Young, North Dakota Republican, Wednesday placed in the Congressional Record two columns by this writer, then with the Daily News, from last July 25 and 26.

Said Sen. Young:

"Welch has made accusations against the President of the United States and other top officers far beyond anything the late Senator Joe McCarthy even thought of.

"To label some of our most loyal and dedicated people as communists plays right into the hands of communists."

The Senate majority leader, Mike Mansfield, praised Sen. Young for denouncing the Birch society.

HERE ARE SOME other statements by Welch, who, incidentally, will be in Chicago Sunday on a mission for his society.

"Communist influences are now in almost complete control of our federal government.

"I am proposing the formation of the John Birch society . . . under completely authoritative controls at all levels . . . we mean business every step of the way."

Welch formed the society in a private meeting in an Indianapolis club in December, 1958. He told the businessmen he called together from all parts of the country, "Democracy is merely a deceptive phrase, a weapon of demagoguery, and a perennial fraud."

WELCH WAS SO irrational that responsible leaders who watched his organization believed it would wither as members became aware of their leader's fanaticism.

However, Welch toned down after being exposed by this column after he called in all copies of "The Politician," members refused to acknowledge that such a book even existed.

Welch has continued to persuade well-meaning citizens to join the society.

HE NO LONGER can be ignored. His capacity for undermining government authority and the democratic processes is growing. He can do grave damage to the country, and serve the communists well under his "anti-communist" guise.

More documentation will appear in these columns.



April 10, 1961

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CP, USA, ILLINOIS  
DISTRICT - ORGANIZATION  
IS - C

b2

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On March 24, 1961, [ ] advised that CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT contacted DICK CRILEY at which time CRILEY advised he would not be able to meet with LIGHTFOOT. CRILEY stated that he was not sure about the thing on May 1, and LIGHTFOOT complained that such a meeting could not be disorganized. LIGHTFOOT insisted that CRILEY see him regarding certain things. CRILEY advised that he would be willing to help out, however, is getting too much work to handle alone. CRILEY further advised that he would not be able to see LIGHTFOOT on Monday because he was going to Milwaukee. LIGHTFOOT suggested they attempt to have a discussion at a reception to be held the following night. (u)

CRILEY commented that he was on pins and needles every Monday waiting for the decision on the case of JUNIUS (SCALES). CRILEY stated he is keeping his fingers crossed hoping that all the decisions don't go bad. CRILEY thought they should be prepared minutely for the worst because every Supreme Court decision in the First Amendment area has been bad during the last year. LIGHTFOOT commented he had no illusions and stated things might get bad in the national scene before they get better and there is a possibility there might be another Korean war. CRILEY commented there has been an upsurge of feeling and willingness to work around the whole area of the First Amendment. He commented he saw a communication from the Champaign-Urbana area which was a reprint of a statement used for the "Washington Post" and the "New York Times" and 150 people signed it from the area of which group two-thirds were faculty members. He stated the other one-third were mostly ministers and other prominent members of the community. CRILEY commented this was initiated by a Unitarian minister. 184

1 - 100-18080 DICK CRILEY  
1 - 61-867 CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT  
1 - 100-19491 CP - DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATION ISSUES  
1 - 100-19491 JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY 2-19-80  
EX-100-19491  
PHK: Pib  
(5) Sp-1-654/KK

b7C



CONFIDENTIAL

CRILEY stated there was some interesting material that appeared in the "Congressional Record" regarding the John Birch Society. He stated Senator YOUNG from North Dakota introduced some very lengthy stuff that appeared in the Los Angeles press regarding this Society. CRILEY stated this was soon to be a fringe outfit because it is so fantastically blind in its hysteria. It contended that EISENHOWER was an instrument of the Communist international. CRILEY stated this Society has a membership of 100,000 and they are building up to a million. He stated they are an advanced, highly centralized, disciplined vanguard of reactionary forces in American life. CRILEY stated he has no doubt that this Society has been the major force pushing the film "Operation Abolition" which they endorsed. (C) 4

Recommendation

No immediate action necessary.



# Anti-Commie Program Set

Teachers, students, their parents and the general public are invited to attend an anti-Communism seminar at 7 p.m. tomorrow in Waukegan High School's West Campus auditorium.

The three-and-a-half-hour program, arranged by the Waukegan-North Chicago Industrial Management Club, will include three talks and a showing of the film, "Operation Abolition."

Peter Thomas, club program chairman, and John Bentala, educational chairman, announce that auditorium doors will open at 6:30 p.m. There will be no admission charge.

The program will be presented by three Navy men, A. Robert Cocks, Francis R. Mills and Milton J. Fick, all of the Instructor Training and Leadership School at Great Lakes Naval Training Center. The program is not an official Navy program.

The talks will be entitled "How Do We Stand in the Cold War?", "Philosophy of Communism" and "A Program of Action." The film, "Operation Abolition," depicts student riots against the House Un-American Activities Committee in San Francisco last May.

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Waukegan (Ill.) News Sun

4/6/61

Marty  
John Birch Society  
5-2







# Claims Reds Infiltrating The Clergy

Daily News Wire Services

LOS ANGELES — Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, says: "Protestant ministers do not become Communists—but Communists do become Protestant ministers."

He told a capacity audience of 6,000 at the Shrine Auditorium Tuesday night that Communists and their sympathizers are infiltrating the Protestant ministry—because it is the last place where Americans would expect to find them. However, he added:

"There are about 200,000 ministers, and only about 7,000 of them could be called Communists or sympathizers."

About 35 persons picketed the auditorium, but there was no violence.

After his formal address, Welch stood on the stage for half an hour answering questions from the friendly audience of 6,000. But he banned questions from newsmen and refused to hold a press conference.

IN WASHINGTON, Sen. Gale McGee (D-Wyo.) told the Senate that Welch had cast "reckless slurs and smears" against Protestant ministers.

McGee denounced as ridiculous Welch's Los Angeles statement about the ministers.

"Nothing could suit the Communist purpose more than these charges," McGee said.

He said the society is made up of "twisted, distorted, sick people" who see Communist conspirators all about them and are "afraid of America."

SEN. Milton R. Young (R-N.D.) told his colleagues he has been receiving many letters condemning him for his criticism of the Birch Society. He said the letters follow a pattern.

3-25-61?

Ceo  
Searched  
Reid. [unclear]  
+ [unclear]  
S-J

## CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

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Chicago, Illinois

Page 80 Col. 5

Part -

Editor JOHN STANTON

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[unclear]  
[unclear]



MORTON GROVE, ILL.

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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
536 So. Clark  
Chicago, Ill.

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DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1 BSH/ML



March 23,

Dear Sirs,

My husband & I are in  
need of some extra help. We  
have been approached to join  
the John Birch Society.

We have read some of their  
literature & are amazed at the  
unorthodox & almost news-  
worthy. The organization  
tactics & conduct are most  
democratic.

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DATE 2-19-80 BY SP-1 GSK/HAL

Information on the  
to read, Robert Welch, is  
hard to find. Our congress-  
woman, Mrs. Church, says she  
is unable to give us information.  
No credentials are



of land in the back of the  
house.

The Society is very active  
in this area, especially at  
Charles Street and Robert Cook  
Resurrection Mission Grounds.

Please let us know the  
status of the group.

Sincerely,  
[Redacted]

b7C



2017-08-08



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115-1000

536 South Clark Street  
Chicago 5, Illinois  
March 29, 1961

[redacted]  
Glenview, Illinois

b7C

Dear [redacted]

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter  
of March 23, 1961.

With reference to your inquiry I wish to inform  
you that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is precluded by  
Executive Order from furnishing information of a confidential  
nature which may be in its files. I am certain that you will  
understand the need for such an Executive Order so that the  
FBI may carry out its responsibilities.

I might suggest, however, that you may desire to  
re-state your problem and make inquiry for public source  
material concerning organizations from the following address:

Department of Justice  
Attention, Subversive Organizations Section  
Internal Security Division  
Washington, D. C.

Further, you may also wish to direct an inquiry  
to the attention of the United States Senate Judiciary  
Committee, Washington, D. C. concerning this matter.

The remarks and suggestions contained in this letter  
should not be construed as indicating that the files of the FBI  
contain information concerning the subject matter of your inquiry.

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DATE 2-19-80 BY sp-1661/ur

Very truly yours,

James H. Gale  
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted] requested info re JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY. Her original  
letter is attached.

CNF/njb-*njb*  
(2)

100-35671-112



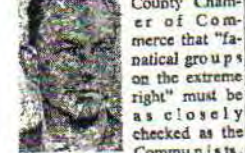
# California Widens Birch Group Probe

**State Aide Warns 'Fanatical'  
Movements Must Be Checked**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (UPI)—The John Birch Society was the target of both the executive and legislative branches of the California government Wednesday.

The California attorney general's office was investigating the society, some of whose principal organizers are located in Southern California. Robert Welch, Belmont, Mass., is founder and leader of the society.

State Atty. Gen. Stanley Mosk warned in a speech before the Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce that "fanatical groups on the extreme right" must be as closely checked as the Communists, for they are "equally dangerous to democracy."



ROBERT WELCH  
"equally dangerous to democracy."

He gave six tests by which he said people could determine whether an organization advocated an extremist doctrine.

—Does the organization attack churches and schools with blanket accusations?

—Does it attack other traditional American institutions with wild, unsupported charges?

—Does it label everyone with whom it disagrees politically un-American or subversive?

—Does it try to rewrite modern history by blaming American statesmen for wars, com-

munist, depression and other world ills?

—Does it resort to crude pressure tactics such as anonymous phone calls and letter-writing?

—Do the spokesmen of the group appear more interested in the size of their money collections than in the principles they purport to espouse?

"APPLY THESE six tests," he said, "and you will avoid entangling memberships with

such groups as the American Nazi Party, Communists, the Ku Klux Klan, the John Birch Society, the Cinema Education Guild, the Muslims, and others of that type." The Muslims are an extremist antiwhite sect.

Meanwhile, a committee of the California state Legislature began hearings on the Birch Society. One lawmaker testified it "reminds us very much" of the Hitler organization in Germany before World War II.

The hearing by the Assembly Rules Committee was considering a proposal to request a federal investigation of the society.

*John Birch Society*  
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Chicago, Illinois

Page 10 Col. 1

Part ---

Editor JOHN STANTON

CHICAGO OFFICE

*5-5 100-7*  
*Jan*





ROBERT W. WELCH

b7C

This is the first of a series of three articles on the John Birch Society, researched by a special UPI reporting team across the United States.

# JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

## *Its Origin, Growth, Views*

100-36671-100

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"Chicago Sun Times"  
3/30/61, pgs. 1 & 26  
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MAR 30 1961  
CHICAGO



By United Press International

Have you heard of the John Birch Society? Chances are you are going to hear of it, and perhaps feel its impact, in the coming months.

Its announced purpose is completely laudable: To fight and destroy communism within the United States. Its membership includes able and patriotic men.

But its methods, its specific aims and its judgments of some American leaders have led equally able and patriotic citizens to denounce the society as going far beyond the tactics of the late Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.).

Its head is a retired candy company executive, Robert W. Welch, 61, of Belmont, Mass. A speech by Welch at the founding of the society in 1958 has become its "Blue Book," or summary of principles. Here are some samples of the statements in that book and other remarks made by Welch:

1 Former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, his brother, Dr. Milton Eisenhower, the late Sec. of State John Foster Dulles and his brother, Allen W. Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, were members of the Communist underground.

2 The John Birch Society should work for the impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren, repeal of the income tax law, elimination of social action by the Christian churches, an end to NATO and foreign aid, cessation of cultural or other exchanges with Russia, and severe restrictions on collective bargaining.

3 "Civil rights" is a Communist slogan, an exact parallel of the slogan of "agrarian reform" that Communists used in China.

4 Former Vice President Richard M. Nixon: "One of the ablest, shrewdest, most disingenuous and slipperiest politicians that ever showed up on the American scene." Welch wrote that before the last election campaign, and added: "He may be the best bet we have for the Republican standard-bearer in 1960, who has any chance of getting the nomination."

5 Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York: "I think Nixon could become a very patriotic anti-Communist if we could create circumstances in which it would be smart politics to be one whereas I think Nelson Rockefeller is definitely committed

to trying to make the United States a part of one-world Socialist government."

6 President Kennedy (written in 1958 and not referring to

Mr. Kennedy by name): "You will usually find him in church on Sunday morning, maybe even a Catholic church. But as a member of the United States Senate, running for the presidency, and smart enough to know the strong Communist support behind-the-scenes which he will have to get in order to have any chance of being nominated in 1960, such an amoral man can do a tremendous amount of ball-carrying on behalf of Communist aims here in the United States."

7 Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.): "I'd love to see him President of the United States and maybe some day we shall." (Goldwater said he was familiar with the organization, had met several of its members and they are "very outstanding men." He said he was not a member of the society and was not aware of its endorsement.)

8 Outstanding Americans: The late Sen. Robert A. Taft (R-Ohio) and Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

9 The 1952 Republican convention: "The snatching of the Republican nomination from Taft (by Mr. Eisenhower) in 1952 by purchase, theft, secret deals and other tactics was more

Turn to Page 26



Continued from Page 1

foul than had ever before appeared in American politics. . . . The president of one of America's largest banks took suitcases full of currency to the convention to bribe delegates away from Taft; and he (the banker) was rewarded for thus providing such spontaneity, by a major ambassadorship."

10 Communists: "The secret Communist looks and acts just like anybody else, only more so." It could be anybody you know. Welch said one of his prime suspects is "one of the nicest men you ever met. Most of them are."

11 The press: "The domination of our press, television and radio by Communist influences is now so great that you simply are not allowed to learn or be reminded of the real nature of the beasts to whom we are losing." The Communist Daily Worker quit publication "because the 'line' taken by the (New York) Times long ago made it unnecessary, superfluous and probably embarrassing to the Times."

12 Military defense: The idea that the nation must mobilize its resources to combat the external danger of Soviet military might and Sputnik supremacy is a part of the Communist plot. "We are being stampeded into the biggest jump ever toward, and perhaps the final jump right into, socialism and then the Communist camp."

#### Founded In Indianapolis

The society was founded on Dec. 9, 1958, at Indianapolis after Welch delivered a two-day speech to 11 men he had invited. That speech today is the Blue Book.

John Birch was a young fundamentalist Baptist missionary from Georgia who served as an intelligence officer in China in World War II. He was killed by Chinese Communists 10 days after V-J day at age 27.

Welch had not heard of Birch until after his death. But Welch has researched and written Birch's life story and named the organization after him as "probably the first American casualty in the third world war."

Welch said the society now has from 1 to 100 chapters in each of 34 states and in the District of Columbia. He hopes for 1,000,000 dedicated members.

The John Birch Society might be dismissed as extremist and uninfluential were it not for the composition of its membership.

#### 12 Leaders Listed In Who's Who

Twelve of the 26 men currently listed as members of the society's council are in Who's Who in America. They include two former presidents of the National Assn. of Manufacturers—William J. Grede and Cola G. Parker, both of Wisconsin. A third former NAM president, Ernest G. Swigert of Portland, Ore., had previously been listed as a council member.

Other council members include Spruille Braden, former U.S. ambassador; T. Coleman Andrews, the former collector of internal revenue who ran for President on a platform calling for abolition of the income tax; Clarence Manion, former dean of the University of Notre Dame Law School and head of the highly conservative Manion Forum; M. T. Phelps, former



CLARENCE  
MANION

WILLIAM J.  
GREDE

SPRUILLE  
BRADEN

#### Members of John Birch Society's council

chief justice of the Arizona Supreme Court; Col. Laurence E. Bunker, former personal aide to Gen. MacArthur, and Lt. Gen. Charles B. Stone III (Ret.) former commander of the 14th Air Force in China. The late Alfred Kohlberg, New York importer known for his letter-writing campaign in support of the so-called "China Lobby," was a charter member and is still listed as such.

#### Menjou Withdraws

Adolphe Menjou, the Hollywood actor, was at one time a member of the council. His wife said early in March that both she and her husband were still members of the society. On March 21, Mrs. Menjou said her husband was in a hospital with a minor ailment but that he had withdrawn from the society, having found he disagreed with Welch "on certain points." She declined to elaborate.

The "most important activity" of the John Birch Society at the moment is its campaign to impeach Chief Justice Warren.

In Welch's view, the Supreme Court's school integration decision and all the racial troubles in the South have been brought about by Communists to foment civil war.

In his bulletin for March he urged members to write "more letters to the same congressmen . . . the same letters to more congressmen" and to the newspapers to prepare the way for undisclosed "specific actions" to come.

"There is plenty of evidence that we already have the pot of the Warren impeachment boiling," he said. "What we need now, by adding more fuel and blowing on the fire, is to give that pot a head of steam that will be looked at askance by anybody who might want to sit on the lid."

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#### Churches Also Attacked

Congress was stirred to protest by the society's campaign against Warren. But it is the society's attack on the nation's churches that apparently has brought it to the attention of more communities—and has more bitterly divided those communities—than any of its other activities.

It is an attack that has been made for years by some religious fundamentalists and economic conservatives who see as both heresy and communism the preaching of a "social gospel" that attempts to apply Biblical teachings to current secular and political problems.

The Los Angeles Times, in an editorial signed by publisher Otis Chandler on March 12, saw an implication of sedition in Welch's statements. Chandler, like many others, deplored the identification of conservatism with extremism.

"The Times believes implicitly in the conservative philosophy," the editorial said. "It has challenged all these men and most of these institutions (which Welch attacks) on the soundness of one or more issues. But the Times does not believe that the argument for conservatism can be won—and we do believe it can be won—by smearing as enemies and traitors those with whom we sometimes disagree."

"Subversion, whether of the left or the right, is still subversion."

#### Letters Defend Birch Society

"I am prepared to defend their right to express their views, as I would 'leftist' opinions," said Los Angeles lawyer A.J.L. Wirin about the society. "That its views, however, are acceptable to any portion of the American public is a sad commentary on the present American political scene."

Some answers to Wirin's question on the society's appeal were provided March 18 in two pages of letters printed by the

Los Angeles Times following its editorial condemnation of the society.

Four writers said the Times articles preceding the editorial were prompting them to join the society. Two justified their membership in these words:

"It is the only organization that I know of that gives vital information on what is really going on and gives us suggestions for positive action;" and

"If our government has made a real attempt to inform us, or to direct our attention to the need for this information, the John Birch Society would have been unnecessary."

Letter writers who praised the newspaper for its stand included Nixon, the presidents of the University of California and Occidental College and the chancellor of the University of California at Los Angeles. Also Rep. James C. Corman, (D-Calif.) and Methodist Bishop Gerald Kennedy.

#### Upset By Attack On Ike

One letter, signed only with initials and presumably written with a matrimonial "we," complimented the Times for explaining "probably much better than we might the reasons why we resigned after several months as members."

The letter said the writers had become disturbed by cards distributed by the society last year to protest the planned summit meeting. Designed for mailing to Mr. Eisenhower, they read: "If you go—don't come back!"

"Then we began to note that almost every public official—Roosevelt, Truman, Ike, Nixon, Dulles and others became ever-widening targets of Welch."

"We heard whispers, remarks prefaced by, 'Would you believe it if I told you—?' and we became increasingly wary."

"We became disenchanted with the John Birch Society, and withdrew. . . ."

#### Nixon Comments

Nixon wrote the Times: "It may at times seem unrealistic and naive to follow the rules of the game when our opponents are so unscrupulous and completely devoid of morality. But, in the end, refusing to resort to methods that are wrong not only is right but in the long run is the most effective way to combat an evil doctrine like communism. . . ."

"One of the most indelible lessons of human history is that those who adopt the doctrine that the end justifies the means inevitably find the means become the end."

Times publisher Chandler rejoiced on two counts at the heavy reaction on the newspaper's stand. The readers' expenditure for "stamps, phone calls and shoe leather (and aspirin)" he took as a happy omen that the economy is on the upswing.

Further, he wrote: "To stand up and say unequivocally what you believe in your heart, is the right thing, regardless of immediate discomforts or neighborhood reactions, is a blessed virtue. We have done this on major issues of concern to all of us, and we respect and thank God you, the American public, have the guts to do the same. This in itself hurts the Communist cause."

The first count of replies, he said, was: "Pro Times policy—126 letters, 13 phone calls, one new subscription; against—163 pieces of mail, 8 phone calls, 22 actual subscriber cancellations and threats or mentions of cancellations."

FRIDAY: Another newspaper publisher assails the John Birch Society's methods. More about its operation.



# Story Behind Anti-Red John Birch Society

Leader Attacked  
and Defended in  
Press, Pulpit

BY WALTER TROHAN

(Chicago Tribune Press Service)

Washington, March 29—In the last month, the John Birch society,



Welch

an anti-communist organization which has been operating quietly for 16 years, has sprung into nationwide prominence. On one side, the society has been denounced as a vicious undercover group as dangerous as the Nazis who gathered in a Munich beer cellar 30 years ago. The society has been denounced for its attacks on many prominent Americans, including Chief Justice Warren, whose impeachment its leader is seeking; former President Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Allen W. Dulles, central intelligence agency director.

Among the attackers are many who have denounced almost every attempt to battle

communism as the work of hate mongers and witch burners who want to set up their own brand of totalitarianism.

## Against Federal Power

Also among the attackers are those who see the society as opposed to concentration of federal power and against spending schemes.

On the other hand, the society has many supporters, who support its anti-communism and anti-centralization, while deploring its attacks on the loyalty of the chief justice, the former President and other Americans.

These defenders include T. Coleman Andrews, former commissioner of internal revenue; Lt. Gen. George E. Stratemeyer; Clarence Manion, former dean of the Notre Dame law school; F. Gano Chance, former chief justice of the Supreme court of Arizona, and Frank E. Holman, past president of the American Bar association.

## Criticized by Press

The society is being widely criticized in all shades of the press from left to right. It has been hit by former Vice President Nixon and by two Republican United States senators on the floor of the Senate — Sen. Milton R. Young

(R., N. D.), and Sen. Thomas H. Kuchel (R., Cal.). It has also been assailed from the pulpit.

The society also has its defenders in Congress and from the pulpit, largely because of the nature of the men who support its anti-communism. It has had fewer defenders in the press, because by virtue of its quiet operations, little is known of the organization.

## Candy Maker Founder

This, then, would seem to be a good time to meet the society's founder, Robert H. W. Welch Jr., 61 year old former candy manufacturer who lives in Belmont, Mass. This reporter does not know him, altho he is familiar with some of his writings, has exchanged some correspondence with him, and knows several of his friends.

Welch formed his society when he became interested in the death of John Birch, a former missionary to China, whose parents operated a small farm near Macon, Ga. He was a descendant of the John Alden who was selected to speak for the hand of Priscilla Mullens by Capt. Miles Standish and won her hand for himself.

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#### Killed by Chinese

Birch was in China when the war broke out and joined Gen. Claire Chennault's forces in 1942. He became a captain in intelligence and was decorated and widely trusted by the Chinese.

He was killed savagely on Aug. 25, 1945, in Huang-Ko, China, by Chinese Communists when he set out on a mission to determine whether or not they were friendly. He was shot, bayoneted and tossed into an open grave while still alive. He found out the temper of the Chinese Communists the hardest way.

The facts of Birch's death were suppressed in Washington. They were labeled top secret, evidently at the insistence of those in the state department who were trying to promote the idea that the Chinese Communists were nothing more than agrarian reformers.

Welch became interested in Birch's fate. He ran into the stone wall of Washington secrecy in his efforts to uncover the facts. Finally, thru the cooperation of a United States senator, he got the facts and published the story of Birch's death in a slender volume, "The Life of John

Birch," in 1954. The volume was released by the Chicago publishing firm of Henry Regnery company.

The book was widely hailed for its patriotism. Welch determined to perpetuate the memory of Birch and his sacrifice of his life thru the formation of the anti-communist society which was given the young captain's name.

#### Digs Into Other Items

In his examination of communist influences, Welch became interested in the failure of allied forces to take Berlin and Prague. He was

also interested in the story behind the events, including the failure to provide ready access to the allied sector of Berlin, the communization of China and the enslavement of satellite states.

These researches led to the publication privately of a second book, "The Patriot." This was largely a story of the generalship of Dwight D. Eisenhower. Not content with facts, Welch included editorial conclusions, which reflected on the loyalty of the former President and other Americans. Welch has tried to withdraw the book by picking up all the outstanding copies. He has been unable to do so and this reporter was able to locate one.

#### Disagree With Book

Welch showed the volume to some of the prominent Americans who applauded his life of Birch. As he has ruefully confessed, most of them disagreed with it. Welch ignored advice to strike his editorializations from his volume, but he did not publish his work widely. He showed it to a selected few, most of whom also disagreed with it.

Welch's friends say the editorializations in the book were a serious error of judgment on his part. They also say a second error in judgment is his campaign to impeach Warren.

In the book, Welch accused the former President and many of his aids of being a part of the international communist conspiracy.

#### Calls Milton a Red

Welch did not say that the former President was a Communist, but he did say that the former President's brother, Dr. Milton Eisenhower, was a Communist. Now his opinion is that the former President was a dupe of Communists.

Welch has chapters of his society in 34 states and men-

bers of the society in all the states. Some cities have several chapters. His enemies say he rules these with as tight a fist as Khrushchev runs Communist parties in various countries.

Membership fees are \$24 a year for men and \$12 for women. Members of the society bring pressure on local governments and merchants. Whether or not this is done at his direction or when they detect communist influences, is not clear. Critics of Welch see him exerting dangerous power.

#### Sees Growing Menace

Welch has detected mounting communist control in the United States. He has found communism growing in churches, blamed Communists for desegregation activities, criticized the U. N. as promoting surrender of American sovereignty and assailed foreign aid as helping communism to get the United States to spend itself into destruction.

In this Welch does not differ from many right wing groups. He is currently promoting organization of all sorts of fronts to petition for various actions, including the impeachment of Warren. He wants to fight communism with communist methods, including publications to promote "the truth about recent history and current events."

#### Denies It's Revolution

Welch has said that his own movement is not the beginning of any revolution or counter-revolution. However, he concedes that the very determination of his movement to overthrow entrenched tyranny is the "stuff revolutions are made of."

Welch and his society are being attacked by many concerned Americans as well as by the anti-anti-communists for posing a new menace to traditional liberties.

And he is being defended by such men as Rep. L. Mendel Rivers [D. S. C.] who told the House the society is a "nation-wide organization of patriotic Americans," which is under fire of the Communist party.



# Birch Group Assailed; Congressman Member

By Robert J. Donovan  
Special to The Sun-Times

WASHINGTON — Smoldering resentment against the John Birch Society flared Thursday in Congress with a demand that the society's founder be investigated for calling former President Dwight D. Eisenhower "a card-carrying Communist."

One congressman acknowledged membership in the semi-secret, ultraconservative organization. He is Rep. Edgar W. Hiestand (R-Calif.), who said, "I'm quite sure there are other members of Congress who also



REP. EDGAR W. HIESTAND SEN. THOMAS H. KUCHEL

are members of the society." The outcry was begun by Sen. Thomas H. Kuchel (Calif.), Senate Republican whip. He charged in a speech on the floor that the pronouncements of the society were "outrageous."

**Defends Ike**  
"Good God!" Kuchel exclaimed, "should the American people and the American government let that kind of spleen be poured on one (Mr. Eisenhower) who gives his whole life to the cause of freedom?"

The senator also denounced the society for advocating the impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren.

Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.) told the Senate that Robert W. Welch, founder of the society, had accused not only Mr. Eisenhower of being pro-Communist but had pinned the same label on President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the late Sec. of State John Foster Dulles; Dulles's brother, Allen W. Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, and Mr. Eisenhower's brother, Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, president of Johns Hopkins University.

**Welch Be Called**  
Kuchel asserted Welch should be called before the Senate Government Operations

Committee to answer questions about the "miserable charges" he had made against national leaders.

At Welch's office in Belmont, Mass., a secretary said Welch was unavailable, and added: "He has no comment whatsoever."

In the House, a demand for an investigation by the Un-American Activities Committee was made by Rep. Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.), but the committee chairman, Rep. Francis E. Walter (D-Pa.), said it did not appear that the committee had jurisdiction.

If individuals were libeled, said Walter, they could sue in the courts. Despite the protests,

therefore, there was no indication that any congressional investigation was imminent.

Rep. Hiestand was quoted as saying that he would welcome an investigation by the Un-American Activities Committee because he was sure that an honest inquiry would squelch charges that the John Birch Society is "a dictatorial, fascist organization." He said he joined in California "quite a while back."

His press secretary, James Galbraith, said Hiestand would hold a press conference Friday.

Second in a series on Birch Society on Page 6.

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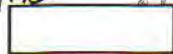
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# Critics, Defenders Assess The John Birch Society

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The United Press International Resident of Santa Barbara, Calif., were in for a surprise when they stepped out into the bright and blowy morning of Feb. 26 to pick up their Sunday newspapers. In that quiet and beautiful city of about 60,000, a respected fellow citizen had discovered what he felt was an outrage.

The editor and publisher of the News-Press is in his 85th year," began a two-column editorial on the front page.

"His entire life has been spent in this community. . . He lived when conditions were rugged, when West was West and men were men. He lived during periods when if a man or a group of men openly, by word of mouth or the printed word, called our President . . . and others at the head of our government, traitors, they were wise to answer. Such slanders often called for a visit from a anonymous and hate group which brought with them a batch of tar and a few feathers."

## Taking A Stand

Thomas More Storke, rancher and citrus grower, owner of a newspaper since 1900, briefly by interim appointment a U.S. senator, and a regent of the University of California, was taking a stand against the John Birch Society and its founder and leader, Robert W. Welch of Belmont, Mass.

Welch, 61, retired from a



J. W. MATTHEWS THOMAS M. STORKE SEN. JAMES O. EASTLAND  
As editorial hint and senatorial protest.

The John Birch Society is a semisecret organization with a noble aim: fighting communism. But its methods have stirred controversy in many cities. A UPI special reporting team researched and investigated the organization, its purposes, operations and opposition, across the nation. This is the second in a series of stories on their findings.

agency firm four years ago to devote his life to fighting communism. What bothered Editor Storke was the way Welch was fighting it.

In a letter written before he set up the society late in 1958 — and still in limited circulation — Welch told friends that the then President Dwight D. Eisenhower, his brother, Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, the late Sec. of State John Foster Dulles and his brother, Allen W. Dulles, then and now director of the Central Intelligence Agency, were members of the Communist underground.

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ings and looking around town for Communists to expose.

The News-Press condemns the tactics that have brought anonymous telephone calls of denunciation to Santa Barbarans in recent weeks from members of the John Birch Society or their sympathizers. Storke's editorial said.

#### "Pressure On Wealthy"

The News-Press condemns the pressures on wealthy residents who fear and abhor communism to contribute money to an organization whose leader has said that "for reasons you will understand, there can be no accounting of funds."

The John Birch Society already has done a grave disservice to Santa Barbara by creating suspicious and mutual dis-

trust among men of good will. The organization's adherents, sincere in their opposition to communism, do not seem to understand the dangers of the totalitarian dynamite with which they are tampering.

The News-Press challenges them: Come up from underground.

And if they believe that in being challenged they have grounds for suit—let them sue. The News-Press would welcome a suit as a means of shedding more light on the John Birch Society.

#### Campus Infiltrated

A little more than three weeks after Storke's editorial, Chancellor Samuel B. Gould of the University of California at Santa Barbara, said a "new type" of secret student organization had been set up on the campus and "unless it is checked, can destroy the university." Another official said "it was understood" Gould referred to the Birch Society.

Gould said the organization

encourages students to become informers and "take on the tasks of security agencies." He said the university and its officials "have been labeled and vilified in whispering campaigns, all purporting to prove that we are not only less than loyal to America but are downright subversive."

The associate editor of Welch's magazine, American Opinion, is J. B. Matthews. Matthews resigned as chief investigator for Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy's committee in 1953 after appearance in The American Mercury magazine of Matthews' article stating that clergymen were "the largest single group supporting the Communist apparatus" in the country.

Said Welch on how to spot a Communist: "While of course I can make mistakes, too, I know from the way my opinion of various characters, formed independently, has been provided to coincide with the opinion of J. B. Matthews . . . that I have a fairly sensitive and accurate nose in this area."

#### Congressman A Member

Rep. Edgar W. Hiestand (R-Calif.) is listed by the society as a member of its Committee of Endorsers. Hiestand said he has been a member of the society several years.

"It is a society of individualists dedicated to fighting communism," Hiestand told the UPI. "They make up their own minds. They are violently anti-Communist. That is the one thing we have in common."

Hiestand said "a lot of prominent people have been misled by misinformation" and he is considering putting into the record a "well-documented" reply.

Rep. Gordon B. Scherer (R-Ohio), a member of the House Un-American Activities Committee, also is listed as an endorser. He said he was not a member of the society, but "I look with favor on it."

The Senate Internal Security subcommittee is replying to inquiries with a form letter over the signature of its chairman, Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.). It reads: "The John Birch Society, about which you asked, is known to be a conservative anti-Communist organization officially. We are happy to state that it seems to be, from our records, a patriotic organization."

#### Ex-General Heads Unit

At Amarillo, Tex., Brig. Gen. William L. Lee, retired commander of the Amarillo Air Force Base, is head of the local Birch organization. He denied the society has anything to do with the rumored circulation of

Turn to Page 22

#### Use In Own City

The statement about Mr. Hiestand wasn't all Storke had on his mind. In Santa Barbara itself, blessed as few communities in the nation with the comforts of both nature and material wealth, lives a member of the society's 26-man council, Dr. Grenville Knight, a physician.

Several active chapters of the semi-secret society were studying communism at private meet-



Continued from Page 6

a list charging five prominent local men are Communists.

Wee said there are no Communists in Amarillo. But he acknowledged that the society is stirring up friction in local churches.

"We have documented proof that the National Council (of Churches) has been infiltrated by Communists and some of these ministers just won't listen to us," Lee said. "Until we can convince them that the National Council has some Communist followers in it, there is going to be some friction."

Church leaders in Amarillo have said they are fearful that congregations may be split into warring camps.

The Amarillo group has been less successful in another campaign. The public library refused to yield to its demand that it call off a "Great De-

cisions" discussion series sponsored by the 42-year-old Foreign Policy Assn.

At Wichita, Kan., the society has moved to battle in policy matters in parent-teacher associations, the library and college. According to George H. Lewis, assistant professor of economics at the University of Wichita and director of the Kansas Council for Industrial Peace, Birch members "virtually control the Wichita Chamber of Commerce and seem to have a dominant

influence in the state chamber organization.

"One of their major objectives in the state is to destroy collective bargaining. They are preparing to push through some vicious antilabor legislation during the next session (of the Kansas Legislature)."

In Santa Barbara, members of the First Presbyterian Church received through the mail a Birch Society questionnaire attacking the church's leadership and that of the Na-

tional Council. The Rev. Eugene Carson Blake, stated clerk of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. and a former National Council president, flew to Santa Barbara to accuse the Birch Society in a sermon. His text was "Thou shalt not bear false witness . . ."

"If you let these propagandists have their way they will divide this church right down the middle between 'Communists' and 'Fascists' hating each other, labeling each other, and distrusting each other," the Rev. Mr. Blake said.





(AP Wirephoto)  
REP. EDGAR HIESTAND  
Birch group member.

## Pressure for Action on Birch

WASHINGTON (AP)—There was increasing agitation in Congress today for action against the John Birch society, an ultra rightist organization whose leader has tagged former President Eisenhower and Chief Justice Earl Warren as Reds.

And a justice department spokesman said activities of the society have become "a matter of concern to the justice department."

Some critics have called the society, whose avowed aim is fighting communism, a dictatorial and fascist group.

### Some Defenders

But even in high Washington circles the organization has defenders. Rep. Edgar W. Hiestand (R., Cal.) disclosed he is a member, and said without naming them that there are others in Congress who also belong.

Hiestand denied the organization is dictatorial or fascist or operates in a semi-secret manner.

The society was founded in 1948 by Robert Welch, a retired candy manufacturer of Belmont, Mass. Recent attacks on some Congress

members, carried out chiefly thru letter writing, rocketed it into concern at the capitol.

### Kennedy Silent

The public denunciations of the group by Congress members have tended to focus, however, on Welch's expressed suspicions of the patriotism of Eisenhower, Warren, and numerous other national figures.

The statement that the group's activities are a matter of concern to Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy was made by the justice department spokesman in response to an inquiry as to whether the department planned any action. He would not elaborate and there was no direct statement from Kennedy.

### Investigation Urged

Heads of various congressional investigating committees heard calls from some of their colleagues yesterday for investigations of the Birch society. But there was no indication that any of the committees was inclined to leap into an inquiry.

Rep. Francis E. Walter (D., Pa.), chairman of the House committee on un-American activities, questioned that his committee had authority to launch such an investigation. He made the point that the complaints he has received have been against what the complainants regarded as slurs and libels of individuals—not complaints of activities against the government.

The recourse by individuals against slander is in the courts, Walter noted.

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# Welch Denies He Called Ike 'Card-Carrying Communist'

BELMONT, Mass. (AP)—Robert W. Welch, founder of the ultra-rightist John Birch Society, denied Friday that he ever called former President Dwight D. Eisenhower a "card-carrying Communist."

When asked in an interview whether he ever did view Mr. Eisenhower as a Red agent, he replied: "I never had that opinion. I never thought it then with firmness enough to publish it or to say it in public and I don't today."

## Comment On Quote

The latter exchange came when a reporter asked him to comment on this statement published in a book comprising what Welch calls a "private confidential letter written years ago."

"But my firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy is based on an accumulation of detailed evidence so extensive and so palpable that it seems to me to put this conviction beyond any reasonable doubt."

## Reference to Milton

In another part of the book, this reference is made to Milton Eisenhower, the former President's brother:

"In my opinion, the chances are very strong that Milton Eisenhower is actually Dwight Eisenhower's superior and boss within the Communist Party."



Robert W. Welch, retired businessman who is head of the controversial John Birch Society, talks in his Belmont (Mass.) office. [AP]

For one thing, he is obviously a great deal smarter."

The book—or letter—also describes Harry S. Truman and Franklin D. Roosevelt and the late Sec. of State John Foster Dulles as tools of communism. When asked about this, Birch told a reporter he had said "they were being used by the Communists. I never said they were Communists and I don't say it now."

The interview in the head-

quarters of the Birch Society here took place after Welch issued a prepared statement "offered as an effort to pierce . . . Some of the incredible fog of falsehood now being so widely circulated about me."

He said in the statement he does not think Mr. Truman and Mr. Roosevelt were Communists "or sympathizers in any way with ultimate Communist aims."

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action simply to political opportunism.

Welch said his letter was read by most of the men who founded the Birch Society in 1958 and was "specifically disavowed by the group as being no part of the material of belief of the John Birch Society in any way."

#### Vows Fight To Finish

Welch also said he made clear in a book he wrote that "I did not think either Roosevelt or Truman were Communists or sympathizers in any way with ultimate Communist aims."

As to the society, Welch said: "Our only 'crime' is fighting communism, and that we intend to continue until our side wins."

He added the society has "broken no law, violated no moral principles, and has a firmly stated foundation of its program that even good ends never justify bad means."

Referring to the "private confidential letter," Welch said he originally sent it to "a few friends." They asked for copies to be sent to others, he said, and added:

"I kept adding to it and got more requests and the letter eventually grew to 80,000 words. That is why the letter came to be called a book."

#### Tells Strong Areas

Welch declined to say how many members the society has. But he did say it is strongest in California, Texas, Arizona and Tennessee.

He claimed 25 chapters in Massachusetts, and said the society tried to keep a chapter at 10 to 20 members. However, he said, sometimes they are larger. He said one chapter in a Connecticut city he would not identify, grew to 44 members before it split into five groups.

"It is hard to get them to split," he said, "after they get to know each other in a chapter."

#### Denies Secrecy

Welch, a retired 61-year-old candy manufacturer, said "The John Birch Society is not, simply because we have sought to avoid publicity, thereby a secret organization."

"Our objective has been to build strength and understanding instead of creating a noise," he said. "All of our materials are wide open for anybody to purchase."

Welch said "Nowhere in my private or published writings have I ever called former President Eisenhower a 'card-carrying' Communist."

But he said he did write a "private confidential letter" some years ago "in which I stated in the blunt language of a personal letter some harsh personal opinions of our then-President."

He said that letter made it clear "that I had no quarrel with anybody who wished to attribute his (Mr. Eisenhower's)

opinion is based largely on general circumstances of his conduct. But my firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy is based on an accumulation of detailed evidence so extensive and so palpable that it seems to me to put this conviction beyond any reasonable doubt.

This inevitably prompts the third question, as to a man born in the American Midwest, who went

Robert W. Welch's book, "The Politician," has this reference to Dwight D. Eisenhower on Page 267.

least a brief word of comment.

1. Milton Eisenhower

Presidential adviser. At least in appearance. Had always been an ardent New Dealer, to put it mildly and still is. Proof of at least pro-Communist leanings is implicit in his support of Owen Lattimore, and of others like him, at Johns Hopkins. In my opinion the chances are very strong that Milton Eisenhower is actually Dwight Eisenhower's superior and boss within the Communist Party. For one thing he is obviously a great deal smarter.

2. Maxwell E. Rabb

Presidential adviser, and assistant for relations

Welch's book contains this reference to the former President's brother, Milton, on Page 210.



# Founder's Birch Society Blueprint

By United Press International

At the start of 1961 the John Birch Society had organized one to 100 chapters in each of 34 states and the District of Columbia, according to its founder, Robert W. Welch of Massachusetts.

Still to be organized: Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah and Vermont.

"The John Birch Society is to be a monolithic body," Welch said in a Blue Book of the organization's doctrine. The book also said:

"A republican form of government or of organization has many attractions and advantages, under certain favorable conditions. But under less happy circumstances it lends itself too readily to infiltration, distortion and disruption. And democracy, of course, in government or organization . . . is merely a deceptive phrase, a weapon of demagoguery and a perennial fraud . . .

"The John Birch Society will operate under completely authoritative control at all levels.

No collection of debating societies is ever going to stop the Communist conspiracy."

He hoped for 1,000,000 dedicated members to fight the forces of evil with "evangelical fervor."

Paul H. Telfer, Los Angeles insurance executive who is one of the society's council members, estimates that it might



John M. Birch, soldier-missionary slain in China in 1945, for whom John Birch Society is named. **AP**

have 100,000 members by the end of 1961, its third year.

Welch said he wanted to rise \$1,000,000 from sources other than dues during the society's first year — "and even that amount is an awfully small drop in the bucket, against what either the direct Communist propagandists or the Reutherite labor bosses (Walter Reuther is president of the United Auto Workers) are spending against us."

There is no public accounting of either money or membership. Dues are \$24 a year for men and \$12 for women; life memberships are \$1,000, either sex.

Appeals for additional voluntary contributions accompany virtually all mailings to members.

This is another of a series of articles about the semirecent John Birch Society, an organization that has created controversy because of its methods of fighting communism. A special report on the group's activities in the Chicago area will appear in The Sunday Sun-Times.

Welch has said he draws no salary. There are 28 full-time employees at headquarters. The society is reported to be the largest single source of revenue for the Belmont (Mass.) Post Office next door.

## 35 Are Co-ordinators

Another 35 salaried persons work around the nation as co-ordinators of member groups, and an additional 100 persons work full or almost full time as volunteers.

Welch frankly has borrowed the Communist technique of setting up "front" groups for specific purposes. He acknowledged that another technique he advocates — the use of loaded questions to smear a suspect he can't prove is a Communist — is "mean and dirty."

Chapters operate as widely

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different levels of secrecy. In North Dakota, meetings are announced on radio stations and everybody is welcome. The North Dakota organization, with about 400 members in 19 chapters, was active in a proposal to outlaw the federal income tax which was approved by the state's lower house but killed in the state Senate.

#### Caution Before Valor

In Dallas, a 32-year-old businessman member of the society wouldn't give his name for publication, however, and explained: "Most of our members in Dallas are little people, just like I am. Most of these folks could not take a sustained smear attack. If it came along, they would probably be thrown out of their jobs. For that reason, the thing has been kept pretty quiet. There are no real millionaires in Dallas in it as far as I know."

He estimated there were 20 chapters in Dallas and said he had heard there were 100 in Houston. Chapters are generally made up of 20 members.

There is no rule of thumb in Welch's book for members to determine on their own who is or who isn't a Communist, or Communist dupe.

#### Matter of Feeling

There are ways of sizing up both individuals and organizations in this battle which come only with experience, a knowledge of the interlocking pieces and personalities and a feel for the way the Communists work," says the Blue Book.

Congressmen, recently made aware of Welch's old accusation that then President Dwight D. Eisenhower was a Communist, are looking askance at what they describe variously as a "trickle" or a "flood" of "impeach Chief Justice Earl Warren" mail.

Republican whip Sen. Thomas H. Kuchel of California, who said he had received about 200 such letters since October, described the campaign as "contemptible and vicious."

#### 'Dangerous Problem'

"One may, if he chooses, disagree on occasion with decisions of the Supreme Court, the votes of a member of Congress, or on a position which the American President takes," Kuchel said. "That is part of our right of

free speech. But to attempt to heap slime and abuse on any public figure poses an extremely dangerous problem for self-government in this country."

Members of the society from coast to coast have professed themselves undisturbed by Welch's charge that Mr. Eisenhower was not a dupe but a Communist.

"If he (Mr. Eisenhower) is one, he doesn't know it," said a Santa Barbara (Calif.) woman.

#### Braden Disagrees

Spruille Braden, former U.S. ambassador and a member of the society's council, said he didn't agree with the charge but that it in no way led him to question Welch's judgment on other matters.

"He may exaggerate sometimes," Braden said of Welch. "When you're in a barroom brawl, no holds are barred. You don't fight by the Marquis of Queensbury rules."

In California, Gov. Edmund G. Brown said on March 21 that he had asked State Atty. Gen. Stanley Mosk to look into the organization and report to him.

"Unless they violate a law, they have a right to speak," Brown said.

#### Welch Asks Probe

Welch telegraphed Brown the following day demanding a full-dress investigation by the California Senate's Un-American Activities Committee and promising "a dozen or a hundred or a thousand of our members in California will gladly testify."

Talbert, the Los Angeles member of the society's council, said that if any members plead the Fifth Amendment "we would just love to find out just who these infiltrators are so that we can get rid of them." Talbert said "We all believe in loyalty oaths, preservation of

the Connally Amendment, restoration of the investigative powers of the FBI and any other government committee for the purpose of investigating subversion."

#### Question Of Titles

"What is happening to cause supposedly reputable newspapers to refer to us as Fascists, neo-Fascists, Silver Shirts, Red Shirts, Black Shirts, subversives, and even to compare us with the Ku Klux Klan?"

Welch was born in North Carolina on Dec. 1, 1899. He was reared in what he now calls "the intellectually restricting



At news conference in Washington, Rep. Edgar W. Hiestand (R-Calif.) defends the John Birch Society of which he is a member. (AP)





Shaded states are those in which, as of Jan. 1, 1961, there were organized chapters of the John Birch Society.

bonds of the unusually narrow Southern Baptist fundamentalism." He spent four years at the University of North Carolina, two at the U.S. Naval Academy and two at Harvard Law School before going into the candy business. He was for years vice president of James O. Welch Co., headed by his brother, which has factories in Massachusetts and in Los Angeles.

Welch was interviewed by United Press International and documents of the society were made available to UPI by him.

#### Self-Description

In his own words—a biographical sketch Welch wrote in the third person for society members—he "has one wife, two sons, a Golden Retriever dog, and 14 golf clubs—none of which he understands, but all of which he loves."

He is an affable man who smiles easily and exhibits in his writings a sense of humor, love of poetry and wide knowledge of history and literature.

He was a director of the National Assn. of Manufacturers for seven years, serving also as a vice president. Three former presidents of the NAM are or have been on the Birch Society's council.

On Jan. 1, 1957, Welch's

biography says, he "gave up most of his business responsibilities—and most of his income—in order to devote practically all of his time and energy to the anti-Communist cause."

#### Born in Indianapolis

The John Birch Society was founded almost two years later, on Dec. 9, 1958, at Indianapolis, after Welch delivered a two-day speech to 11 men he had invited to hear it. Its message and aim is: "Less government, more responsibility and a better world."

Welch quite literally wants to repeal the 20th Century. But unlike many who share this desire, either politically or nostalgically, he views its trend toward "collectivism" not simply as a mistake but as a sinister conspiracy to change the economic and political structure of the United States so that this nation can be merged with the Soviet Union without a fight.

"You have only a few more years," he told his listeners at Indianapolis. "We are living . . . in such a fool's paradise as the people of China lived in 20 years ago."

"The danger is almost entirely internal," Welch said. "from Communist influences right in our midst and treasure right to our government."



## Civil Liberties Union Defends Society's Rights

*Special to The Sun-Times*  
NEW YORK — The American Civil Liberties Union Friday defended the right of the John Birch Society to express itself on politics, communism and any other subject.

The ACLU, in a letter addressed to the House Un-American Activities Committee, said: "Regardless of how extreme and distorted (the society's) views may be or how obnoxious they are to us or to the public at large, under the First Amendment, they have the right to be expressed free of government interference."

The ACLU asked the congressional committee not to undertake an investigation of the society.

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# †Never Called Ike a Commie, Says Birch Head

BELMONT, Mass. (AP)—Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch society, says he never called former President Eisenhower a "card carrying Communist."

His denial came last night as criticism mounted around the rightist organization after disclosure Welch once wrote that Eisenhower was a "dedicated, conscious agent of the communist conspiracy."

In a privately published book, Welch also criticized Milton Eisenhower, the former President's brother, and described former Presidents Truman and Franklin D. Roosevelt and the late Secretary of State John Foster Dulles as "tools of communism."

## Didn't Think Ike a Red

Welch said he never viewed former President Eisenhower as a Red agent. "I never had that opinion," he said. "I never thought it then with firmness enough to publish it or to say it in public and I don't today."

Some senators and congressmen have called for investigations of Welch's society by the House committee on un-American activities and the Senate government operations committee.

## Probe Called Smear

Rep. Edgar W. Hiestand (R., Cal.), a member of the society, called congressional attacks part of a "pro-communist smear."

But a justice department spokesman has said the society's activities have become a "matter of concern to the justice department."

Welch's denial that he ever called Eisenhower a "card carrying Communist" was in answer to a reporter's question. The question was prompted by a statement in a book published by Welch which said:

"But my firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the communist conspiracy is based on an accumulation of detailed evidence so extensive and so palpable that it

seems to me to put this conviction beyond any reasonable doubt."

Welch, 61, is a retired candy manufacturer.

The John Birch society was founded by Welch in 1958.

## Persons Listed

Among persons listed as members of the John Birch society national council are: S. J. Connor, president of Conroth company, Chicago; Dr. S. M. Draskovich, editor in chief of the Serbian Struggle, a Chicago weekly newspaper; Revilo P. Oliver, University of Illinois professor.

T. Coleman Andrews, former commissioner of internal revenue; Spruille Braden, former assistant secretary of state; the Rev. Richard Ginder, associate editor of Our Sunday Visitor, Roman Catholic weekly newspaper; Clarence Manion, former dean of the University of Notre Dame law school, and the late Alfred Kohlberg.

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ROBERT WELCH  
Birch society head

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**NORMAN ROSS**

## John Birch Lost in the Shuffle

In the current controversy over the rightist, semi-secret organization, the John Birch Society, John Birch himself has been pretty much lost in the shuffle.

Robert Welch, the ex-candy manufacturer and fanatic anti-communist crusader who founded the society, first learned about Birch as he leafed through an unpublished report of an almost forgotten congressional committee hearing.

He saw there some words spoken by Birch the day he was shot and bayoneted to death by the Chinese Reds. Intrigued, he investigated and uncovered the life story of a young missionary-turned-intelligence officer who was to become, Welch believes, perhaps the first casualty of World War III though murdered just after the Jap surrender at the end of World War II.

JOHN BIRCH was a direct descendant of John Alden, and a relative of "Buffalo Bill" Cody and Calvin Coolidge.



NORMAN ROSS

idge. Born in India to parents who were devout missionary teachers, he grew up in considerable poverty on a small Georgia farm.

John topped his class in high school, college and the fundamentalist Baptist seminary where he studied to be a missionary. He sailed for China in 1940, and soon had so completely immersed himself in Chinese life that he ate, dressed and lived virtually as a native, and quickly gained a rare fluency in the language.

According to Welch, the Japanese hated Birch so much that they sent a detachment to assassinate him the day war with America broke out.

HE ESCAPED, and, in turn, helped Jimmy Doolittle and his raiders escape to Free China. For a time he acted as Doolittle's interpreter, and then worked for eight months

directly under General Claire Chennault.

In his autobiography, Chennault called Birch "the pioneer of our field-intelligence net." He also praised him as the first American able to live with the Chinese Army in the field.

Because of his extremely valuable intelligence-gathering forays, John evidently became something of a legend. He set up an excellent system that rescued some 90 per cent of all Chennault fliers shot down behind Jap lines.

HE MADE a difficult journey to Tibet, once walked 600 miles on a single mission, established secret radio stations overlooking Japanese ports, directed a B-25 as it blew up a secret ammunition dump, organized supply drops to hard-pressed Chinese ground troops and the construction of two secret airfields adjacent to Japanese-held territory.

John never drank, smoked or swore, and preached even as he fought. He became engaged to a British Red Cross worker, but broke the engagement because he felt no woman could follow him to the wild interior of China.

"I believe that this war and the ensuing ~~repercussions~~ will

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set the world stage, as never before, for the rise of anti-Christ" he wrote home.

\* \* \*

**WELCH BELIEVES** Birch had a vision of that anti-Christ as he lay dying in a ditch, shot and bayoneted by Chinese Communists whose "friendliness" he had been sent to explore on what was to have been his last mission.

Welch was never allowed to see the War Department file on Birch. Though honored by Nationalist China and bemedalled by our Air Force, his story was hushed up. Welch believes, as part of our appeasement of the Chinese Reds.

"Traitors and their dupes and allies . . . kept the story of John Birch from the American people" Welch claims.

Whether the society proves to be the powerful Hitlerian monster its enemies claim it to be, or mererly a foolish splinter of the far right, John Birch himself appears to have been a pretty remarkable young man.



# Foes And Friends Of Birch Society Press For Inquiry

By Don Irwin

Special to The Sun-Times

WASHINGTON—Two California Republican congressmen vigorously defended their membership in the John Birch Society Friday. They urged a congressional inquiry to refute "smears" about the archconservative group. The society's open congressional advocates were Representatives Edgar W.

Rjestand and John H. Rousselot, both from Los Angeles County. Both said they knew of other congressional members of the group, but declined to name them.

Both friends and foes of the society urged investigation of its militant opposition to individuals and proposals which the society links with communism. But there was no such inquiry on the immediate horizon.

## Questions Jurisdiction

Rep. Francis E. Walter (D-Pa.), chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee, questioned his group's jurisdiction on the ground that complaints against the society deal with alleged libels against individuals—including former President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

er—and not with moves against the government.

Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.) promised to ask for an investigation at the next meeting of the Senate Internal Security subcommittee, of which he is a member. The subcommittee's influential—and conservative—chairman, Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.), declined comment on the proposal.

At the Justice Department, there was said to be "concern" about the number of letters—averaging upward of 50 daily—complaining about the society's political activities and attacks by some John Birch members against individuals who disagree with the society's approach.

## No Sign Of Formal Probe

The department's internal security division was said to be

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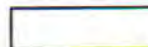
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**Founding of John Birch Society denies he called Eisenhower a "card-carrying Communist."** Story on Page 5, with photostats from his book showing just what he did publish.

The John Birch Society's blueprint; another of a series of background articles on Page 6.

reviewing the situation, but there were no signs of a formal investigation — reportedly because there are no complaints of statutory violations that would give the department jurisdiction.

Hiestand called a televised news conference to defend the society's members as "rugged individualists, dedicated to patriotism and determined in their fight against communism." He denied the society is either secret or neo-Fascist.

The 72-year-old five-term congressman, who retired as a chain-store branch manager before entering Congress, said he had been one of the early members of the society's "home chapter," founded two years ago.

Hiestand challenged the validity of quotations from writings by Robert Welch, the society's founder, which describe Mr. Eisenhower as "a dedicated conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy." The quote is taken out of context from an article the founder wrote seven years ago, Hiestand said, and doesn't involve the society's "principles."

Hiestand said he personally didn't agree with the statement. To further questions, he said he didn't agree with Welch that Allen W. Dulles, chief of the Central Intelligence Agency should be removed as a Communist tool, or with other John Birchers who propose impeach-

Continued from Page 1

ment of Chief Justice Earl Warren on the same ground.

These disagreements, Hiestand said, show that the society is a group of "rugged individualists" not subject to "thought control by some dictator." They have no bearing, he said, on its primary mission, which he defined as voluntary action to combat all manifestations of communism and to inform the nation of them. He said the society is dedicated to "less government, individual rights and a better world."

It is because the society's "success" in these activities has "begun to hurt," Hiestand said, that it is being "smeared" by "pro-Communists."

Asked how the society's activities had begun to "hurt," he replied that he wasn't "well enough informed to say," but that "the record shows that

when an anti-Communist group begins to hurt, it begins to be smeared." Communists, he added, are in "the far background" of this attack, while those in the foreground are "fine people."

The group's principles are spelled out, Hiestand said, in a "blue book" written by Welch, which he described as "available." When reporters said they hadn't seen one, the congressman said he was sorry his was at home.

Denying that the society is secret, Hiestand said its rolls aren't public because members might be "subject to persecution" which they couldn't take because most of them are "little people."

He told a questioner he had "no knowledge" of charges that California units of the society had asked students to report on activities of teachers. He con-

ceded some questionnaires had been sent out that asked "personal questions," but said they "shouldn't be countenanced."

Reminded that J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, has warned against fighting communism with "vigilante groups," Hiestand said he thought that was "sound," and denied that the John Birch Society is covered by that definition.

Asked to name other members of the society in Congress, he mentioned only Rousselot, but indicated there were others.

Reached by telephone in California, Rousselot said he had joined a Los Angeles unit of the society last fall and is "proud to be a member" of what he defined as basically a study group.

He said he knew of two other congressmen who are members of the society and believed

there were more.

The freshman congressman, who formerly served as information director of the Federal Housing Administration, said he would "welcome" an investigation of the society to "clear the air."

If his experience is any guide, he said, an inquiry will show that John Birch meetings are devoted to serious discussion of the techniques of communism documented with reports by the FBI, the Justice Department, the Un-American Activities Committee and the Senate Internal Security subcommittee.

Rousselot defended the society's controversial letter-writing campaign directed at members of Congress. He said such letters had been directed against federal aid to education and Democratic-backed proposals to set up uniform federal standards for state unemployment insurance programs.

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# 'Radical' Is the Word — For Birch Society Boss

THE TERM "conservative" is used these days to cover a multitude of views. But as far as we know, its meaning is nowhere stretched farther than in its application to the John Birch Society.

This is an organization founded in 1958 by Robert W. Welch. Its announced purpose is to destroy communism. Its actual purpose, on the basis of pronouncements by its founder, defies analysis. Whether or not it is dangerous depends upon how many people take those pronouncements seriously. If enough people did, it could wreck the country.

Still, its founder is clearly a man with force, ability and ambition. His goal is 1,000,000 members.

The Milwaukee Journal reported last summer that the group had 10 chapters in Wisconsin. A Daily News reporter learned there were four in Glenview. Welch says there are chapters in 34 states. The society lists among members of its council prominent industrialists, a former ambassador, a former state supreme court justice, a retired lieutenant general.

WHAT KIND of philosophical bed-fellow have these prominent citizens chosen in Founder Welch? He is on record as claiming:

That Dwight and Milton Eisenhower, the late John Foster Dulles and his brother Allen, chief of the Central Intelligence Agency, were all

members of the Communist underground.

- That former President Roosevelt was unknowingly used by the Communist party, and Truman was knowingly used by it.
- That Chief Justice Earl Warren and former Defense Sec. Neil McElroy have done the bidding of the Communist party.

—That "democracy is merely a deceptive phrase, a weapon of demagoguery, and a perennial fraud."

This is not, of course, the philosophy of a conservative. It is a philosophy not less radical than Marxism, but surely pointing in the direction of fascism.

It is understandable how responsible citizens, alarmed by the socialist trends in our society, could be persuaded to join Welch's organization in the supposition that it was dedicated simply to fighting communism.

It is hard to understand how fair-minded citizens, once aware of the extreme views and tactics of the leader, could continue to give him support.

Yet an editorial condemnation of the society by the conservative Los Angeles Times brought 310 responses—139 upholding the Times and 171 belaboring it for the attack. We wonder what the breakdown will be in the Chicago area.

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## OPINION OF THE PEOPLE

### John Birch Society

You are doing a great service by reviewing the John Birch Society, "It's Views, Goals, Tactics." It recalls to me the words of Paul to the Corinthians 3:2 "I have fed you milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able." For here Robert W. Welch offers real meat, and so many are not able to bear it, but can only be milk fed. Maybe, some day, the American people can be weaned of their milk-fed complacency. They will then be strengthened by the good meat the John Birch Society offers.

J. Kesner Kahn

You are doing a real service in publicizing the activities of the John Birch Society. At the time of Khrushchev's visit to the United States and the subsequent summit conference, my attention was driven to them by their strong opposition to these events.

The society's views coincided with my own and I asked for their literature. Later on I received their Blue Book. This was a confusing mixture of appeals to patriotism and action, of appeal to fears by warnings of immediate danger, of a series of allegations whose effect was a crescendo of sensationalism by its attack on numerous persons holding public office. It contained no documentary evidence. A fine example of good documentation would be the book "Betrayal at the

UN," the story of Bang-Jensen, by Copp and Peck.

As time went on, there was no further literature to substantiate these gross and serious charges in the Blue Book, so I lost interest. In my opinion, one of the big dangers of the John Birch Society is the coupling of irresponsibility to such praiseworthy aims as anti-Communist action.

A.E.W.

In reply to the mouthings of your columnist, Marquis Childs (Sun-Times, March 28) let me say he is playing right into the hands of the "reds" when he refers to members of the John Birch Society as "radicals of the right." Benjamin Franklin once said: "We had better hang together, or we shall hang singly." I pass that sage advice on to Childs. He had better wake up to the fact that Moscow's wish is that he, and others of his ilk, want to divide us before they conquer us. I would remind him that a fundamental principle of logic is: "What you assert without proof, I deny without proof." He says the John Birch Society is anti-Semitic; I say prove it. He states they are hate-mongers. I state the only thing they hate is communism. When he and his brothers-under-the-skin columnists stop smearing and hating those individuals and

groups who are fighting communism, and jump in with both feet to fight it also, then I will know they are sincere.

Bea von Boeselager

I am a "Taft-type" Republican, but deplore such a horrid organization.

Pat Edwards

Congratulations on your article concerning the John Birch Society, March 30. This expose is excellent. Subversion is wrong, whether it is on the left or the right in our political life.

Galen E. Russell

I suggest that it is Robert W. Welch who is the Communist. His own words stated: "The secret Communist looks and acts just like anybody else, only more so." More so, would be an understatement, describing Welch. I suggest that his John Birch Society is being formed to foment civil war. To arouse the American people to suspicion, distrust and action regarding all our leaders seems a far more direct and effective way to achieve the Communist goal.

Mrs. Dorothy Pinner

We must speak out against the tactics of the John Birch Society. It looks as if they would wish our institutions to collapse from within leaving us an easy mark for that foreign power they so righteously abhor. It looks as if someone is calling the wrong kettle black, coops red. If it was that simple.

Ariel F. O'Hara

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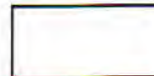
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## Mabley's Report

# Birch Society Probe Second to Ku Klux

BY JACK MABLEY

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY is becoming one of the most investigated, most chronicled organizations in America since the Ku Klux Klan.

Sen. Milton R. Young of North Dakota, leading the fight in Washington to expose this fascistic group, wrote me that 15 major daily papers and one TV network are currently making investigations.



JACK MABLEY

I was able to provide Sen. Young with copies of pages of the suppressed book, "The Politician," written by the dictator of the Birch society, Robert Welch.

Welch hurriedly called in all copies of the book after I exposed him in my column last July. He has since denied the book even exists.

His incredible charges that President Eisenhower is a Communist are contained in the book. But few, if any, other reporters have seen the book.

IN THE INTERESTS of documenting the case against Welch we today print quotations from the Welch book. (I turned over all this to Sen. Young.) They are presented with the warning they are regarded by this writer as maniac ravings. Few members of the Birch society have been allowed to see these words.

On Page 210 Welch writes: "In my opinion the chances are very strong that Milton Eisenhower is actually Dwight Eisenhower's superior and boss within the Communist party."

On Page 212, referring to the former secretary of state, Welch writes: "For many reasons and after a lot of study, I personally believe Dulles to be a Communist agent who has had one clearly defined role to play; namely, always to say the right things and always to do the wrong ones."

WELCH'S TECHNIQUE is to "document" that certain officials were involved in world events that turned out favorably for the Communists, therefore the officials must be Communists.

On Page 213 he uses an obscenity in describing Dulles.

On Page 216 Welch says of Dulles' brother, Allen, head of the Central Intelligence Agency: "... the most protected and untouchable supporter of Communism, next to Eisenhower himself, in Washington."

The attack on Dwight Eisenhower is climaxed near the end of the 302-page book. On Page 286 Welch writes:

"For the sake of honesty, however, I want to confess here my own conviction that Eisenhower's motivation is more ideological than opportunistic. Or, to put it bluntly, I personally think that he has been sympathetic to ultimate Communist aims, realistically willing to use Communist means to help them achieve their goals, knowingly accepting and abiding by Communist orders, and consciously serving the Communist conspiracy, for all his adult life."

TO THIS DIATRIBE one can only react as did Sen. Kuchel of California. "Good God!" Kuchel exclaimed. "Should the American people let that kind of spleen be poured on one who gives his whole life to the cause of freedom?"

Welch's most vicious tirade is on Page 268, when he writes, in summary, "For this man, Eisenhower, there is only one possible word to describe his purposes and his actions. That word is treason."

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### Expected Attacks, Ohio Birch Group Leader Declares

COLUMBUS, Ohio (UPI)—Dr. Charles W. Pavey, an official of the John Birch Society in Ohio, Saturday said he expected the society to be attacked.

"Leaders of the society know and have known always that they would be subject to attack because that's the standard operating procedure of Communists," Dr. Pavey said. "They attempt to attack and discredit personally anyone who opposes them."

Dr. Pavey, an obstetrician, heads the society's Columbus chapter and is co-ordinator for the society in central Ohio. He is a former president of the Columbus Academy of Medicine and is an associate professor in obstetrics and gynecology at Ohio State University.

It was suggested in Congress that the society ought to be investigated.

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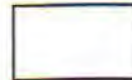
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## KUP'S COLUMN

**ONE MAN'S OPINION:** Among the disturbing thoughts about the John Birch Society are these: (1) How successful would its membership drive have been if Robert Welch, the founder, hadn't made the colossal, stupid blunder of tagging former President Eisenhower a "Soviet agent"? The attendant publicity, we assume, has slowed down the membership campaign to the pace of a horse-and-buggy, an era the society apparently would like to restore for the nation; and (2), granted Welch's motives are as pure as he states, why does the society attract disreputable figures like J. B. Matthews, whose record as a pro-Fascist and Sen. Joe McCarthy stooge is well known? We shudder to think that the political atmosphere is such today that the John Birch Society could enroll as many members as it claims.

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# John Birch Elite Recruited Here

By John Kay Adams

The John Birch Society recruits in the Chicago area by culling an elite group from flocks of people who are sincerely interested in fighting communism.

Only the most zealous Communist fighters interest Robert W. Welch of Belmont, Mass., founder of the John Birch movement. He seeks professional men and business leaders, influential people willing and able to make heavy financial contributions.

Welch does not believe in democracy.

In his Blue Book of the John Birch Society, he writes:

"... Democracy is merely a deceptive phrase, a weapon of demagoguery, and a perennial fraud."

Weak or indifferent anti-Communists are of no concern to him. His goal is a hard-core society of a million. A man close to the movement here says Welch has signed 1,000

members in the suburbs from Chicago to Waukegan.

Elsewhere in his Blue Book, Welch writes that those who join him do so because "they believe in me and what I am doing and are willing to accept my leadership. . . . Those who cease to feel the necessary degree of loyalty can either resign or will be put out before they build up any splinter following of their own. . . . We mean business every step of the way."

Opponents of the John Birch Society contend that Welch's followers have formed vigilante groups which only disrupt the community. In suburban Glenview, where the society has been particularly active, residents are quarreling among themselves over how to fight the Communists.

An atmosphere of suspicion has been created by opposing

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groups until people hesitate to trust their neighbors. They fear being branded as Reds or Fascists, depending upon their opinions of the Birch Society.

The society depends upon other anti-Communist organizations to do the preliminary sorting for potential recruits. When a member of an outside group has proved his devotion and enthusiasm, he gets an invitation from a John Birch member.

#### Front Groups

Welch announced the pattern in his Blue Book by writing that the society should "organize fronts — little fronts, big fronts, temporary fronts, permanent fronts, all kinds of fronts." He considers the Communist Party intelligent in its use of fronts and says the Communists "would never think of setting up publicly a committee to promote communism."

Communist fronts are listed by the U.S. attorney general and watched by security agencies, but the John Birch fronts are hardly recognizable.

People of good will who hear the pitch for the first time have

little idea what is going on. The emotional lectures are delivered with such sincerity that a listener would have to be against God or for communism to disagree with specific wording.

Some take the bait without ever seeing the hook, because the hook is invisible.

#### The First Step

High school students, servicemen and members of church and civic groups have listened to hundreds of anticomunism lectures in recent months in the Chicago area. No one knows how many have taken the first blind step toward the John Birch Society by submitting their names for the anti-Communist mailing lists.

The techniques have such a fine Madison Avenue polish that the speakers themselves seem unaware that they are delivering the John Birch party line.

In Evanston, a reporter attended an "anti-Communist seminar" for five hours and looked and listened in vain for the name of Welch or the John Birch Society. Neither was ever mentioned. A table covered with anti-Communist literature had nothing at all from Welch's prolific press.

The addresses of Communist-fighting organizations were prominently displayed on a poster, but the John Birch Society was not listed.

#### 300 At Meeting

An audience of 300 was assembled in the Evanston Elks Club last Tuesday. It was composed of business and professional men and their wives. Although the meeting was open to the public, most of the men were members of the Elks Club or the Optimists Club, the co-sponsoring organizations.

Two speakers were invited: a member of the Optimists Club heard them elsewhere and suggested others would be in-

terested in the program.

Three Navy enlisted men from the Great Lakes Naval Training Center conducted the program. The team has held 35 seminars for civilians since last December. Audiences have been as large as 3,500 and as small as 30. The average crowd numbers about 300.

#### Naval Instructors

The speakers teach in the Instructor Training and Leadership School at Great Lakes. Milton J. Fick, 34, the seminar co-ordinator, is a chief radarman. Francis R. Mills, 28, is a fire control technician first class and Robert Cocke, 32, is a radarman first class. The Navy pay scale for these ranks is between \$235 and \$285 a month plus allowances.

Fick said they bought their own tape recorder on which they preserve records of their meetings. They also paid for a sound film projector and obtained their movie for \$100.

Sponsoring organizations pay travel costs. No collection is taken. The team received \$4 for its Evanston appearance.

A Navy spokesman confirmed the arrangement and said the men are not paid or given duty time off for their activities. They do not wear their uniforms, and each speaker begins by announcing that the views and opinions expressed are his own and not necessarily those of the Defense Department, the Navy, or the Service School Command at Great Lakes.

#### 3 Lengthy Speeches

The anti-Communist seminar consists of three lengthy speeches and the showing of the controversial movie "Operation Abolition."

At the Evanston meeting there were coffee breaks which stretched the session from 7 p.m. to midnight. Nearly all of the audience stayed for the movie.

No questions were asked

from the floor. At one point, a speaker completed a diatribe against Communists and began a new subject with the phrase: "We Christians. . ."

From the audience a man shouted:

"You call yourself a Christian!"

#### Lecture Resumed

He did not continue, and the speaker resumed his lecture. The audience listened, but did not contribute to any discussion.

The titles of the three speeches were "How Do We Stand In the Cold War?" "Fundamentals of Communism" and "Program of Action."

The order of the presentation and the subject matter covered corresponded to the Blue Book of the John Birch Society. Welch calls his equivalent chapters "Look at the Score," "But Let's Look Deeper" and "And So Let's Act."

#### The First 100 Years

The first speech, delivered by Fick, covered the first 100 years of communism. He contended that the Communists are conquering the world. There was little new in his recitation. One of the incidents cited by Fick was a computer projection purporting to show that if the Communists keep advancing at their present rate they will take over the United States in 1973.

The prediction that the Communists will take over the United States in 1973 also appears in the record of the House Un-American Activities

Committee in testimony delivered on May 29, 1957, by a witness, Frederick C. Schwarz. Schwarz is the Australian evangelist who turned to professional anticomunism.

#### Horror Stories

Mills took the audience into the fundamentals of communism. This was a pseudo-intellectual discourse. The gist of it was that the Communists are



criminal, atheistic conspirators whose word can never be trusted. Negotiation with them is impossible, according to Mills.

Horror stories were Mills' specialty. The most powerful account, delivered in vivid detail, claimed Kliment Voroshilov, former chairman of the Presidium of the U.S.S.R., boasted about his part in a mass murder case.

Voroshilov, according to Mills, told the story to U.S. Ambassador William C. Bullitt. (Bullitt was ambassador to Russia from 1933 to 1936 and Voroshilov retired last year at the age of 79. Mills did not mention any dates.)

According to Mills, Voroshilov agreed no harm would come to 11,000 Czarist officers and their wives and children if they surrendered Kiev. After they surrendered, he said, Voroshilov had the officers and boys shot and put the women and girls into brothels under such deplorable conditions that all of them were dead within three months.

This incident is recounted in the same fashion on Pages 36 and 37 of Welch's Blue Book.

#### Call To Action

Coel, the newest member of the Great Lakes team, presented the call to action. One of the things a real anti-Communist does, he said, is to write letters to editors, congressmen and senators.

The Communists, said Cocke, can produce "50,000 letters on any subject" on short notice.

The same figure appears in the John Birch Blue Book on Page 84. There Welch wrote: "The Communists boast that they can now land 50,000 individually written letters in Washington on either side of any subject within 72 hours."

Cocke urged the audience to



FRANCIS E. MILLS ROBERT COCKE MILTON J. FICK

write to the organizations on the poster to get literature, recorded speeches, films and speakers to help them study communism. He also urged his listeners to form groups of 8 to 12 people to carry on the work.

"When these groups have started studying communism," said Cocke, "they have always been uplifted."

#### Differ In Numbers

The Cocke recommendation of 8 to 12 members in a group differs from the John Birch formula in numbers — Welch calls for 10 to 20 members in each group.

After the seminar, a reporter asked if the speakers belong to the John Birch Society.

"We are not members, nor is our effort sponsored by any organization," said Fick. "We don't even belong to the organizations we recommend."

"Because of my position as a member of the armed forces on active duty I would have to decline comment on the John Birch Society," he continued. "But I publicly endorse the objectives, the views, aims and the techniques of the Christian Anti-Communist Crusade."

#### Anti-Red School

Fick said he supports the crusade because he finds Schwarz "successful in articulating many

of the things I have only vaguely felt."

Through the crusade, Schwarz ran an anti-Communist school at the Glenview Naval Air Station last fall. The sessions there led to formation of the Education for American Security group at Glenview. That organization is also recommended by the seminar speakers.

What then is Schwarz's position in relation to Welch and the John Birch Society? Their current connection is undetermined, but the Blue Book has a clue.

After writing 178 pages of invective against Communists and some of this nation's leaders, Welch finally comes to someone he admires. On Page 179—the last page—he praises Schwarz.

### FIVE-MAN TEAM GETS THE STORY

The exclusive Sun-Times study of the John Birch Society's operation in the Chicago area was prepared by a team of five staff members, headed by John Kay Adams. The others are Frank Sullivan, John Rowley, Raymond Kennedy and Robert Kelly.



JOHN KAY ADAMS



FRANK SULLIVAN



RAYMOND KENNEDY



JOHN ROWLEY



ROBERT KELLY



# Birch Group Aide Slaps At Kennedy

## Illini Prof Calls Presidential Appointments 'Strange, Weird'

BY RICHARD T. STOUT

A John Birch Society leader said Monday that President Kennedy's loyalty to this country will be open to serious question if he does not get rid of some of the people in his administration.

This is the opinion of Revilo Pentleton Oliver, professor of classics at the University of Illinois and an officer of the controversial society.

Oliver, 50, of Urbana, who sits on the society's national council, called the bulk of the President's appointments so far "strange, weird, so-called liberal creatures." In an interview with The Daily News.

He said unless Mr. Kennedy made the appointments only as "political payoffs" and plans to get rid of them as soon as possible, the President will be acting in the interest of Communist conspiracy.

OLIVER told The Daily News that the current stir over writings of the founder and leader of the society, Robert H. Welch Jr., is a "smear campaign ordered by the Communist Party."

Under fire is an 80,000-word letter written by Welch several years ago in which he said he believed "that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist Party."

Oliver would not say whether he shared this belief and called the excerpt from the letter a "misquote."

However, he said Mr. Eisenhower was guilty of many acts while President that played into the hands of the Communists.

OLIVER is one of three Illinois persons on the society's council.

Others are S. J. Connor, of 6657 N. State, a manufacturer who says he started the society's Chicago chapter in 1959, and an S. M. Draskovich, described

as editor of a weekly newspaper, the Serbian Struggle.

MEANWHILE, plans are under way for a "convention of conservatives" in the Morrison Hotel April 13, 14 and 15.

A featured speaker will be Rep. Edgar W. Hiestand (R-Calif.), who is now in the middle of the controversy over the society.

Hiestand in recent days has attacked criticism of Welch, a retired candy manufacturer of Belmont, Mass.

Hiestand, a member of the society, will speak on "Wanton Waste in Washington" at a 7 p.m. banquet April 14.

THE MEETING is being sponsored by a periodical published by Kent Courtney, New Orleans conservative leader.

Among purposes of the meeting is "to present speakers who will document facts exposing Communist infiltration in the United States," said Courtney.

Among other speakers scheduled is Mayor J. Bracken Lee of Salt Lake City, former governor of Utah.

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## **Birch Founder Asks Senate Unit To Probe Society**

BELMONT, Mass. (AP) — Robert W. Welch, founder of the controversial John Birch Society, disclosed Saturday he has asked the Senate Internal Security subcommittee to investigate the organization.

Welch's secretary made public a wire sent Friday night to Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.), subcommittee chairman.

In it Welch promised "none of our members will plead the Fifth Amendment" and asserted the society's "only crime" is fighting communism.

The telegram was made public as criticism of the society mounted following disclosure Welch had written that Mr. Eisenhower was a "dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy."

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Part 1

Editor EMMETT DEDMON

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# Birch Arrogance Fatal, Says War Pal

BILLINGS, Mont. (UPI) — A Billings broadcaster who served in China with John Birch, after whom the ultra-conservative John Birch Society is named, said Saturday that Birch was shot and killed by a Chinese Communist officer during a heated argument. He said that there was "no objection" and "no glory" in Birch's death.

Joseph S. Sample, who was in the same Office of Strategic Services detachment as Birch when Birch met death at the hands of the Chinese Communists 10 days after the end of World War II, said Birch's brash manner probably led to his death. Sample is president of KOOK radio and TV in Billings.

Robert W. Welch, retired Massachusetts candy maker who founded and heads the John Birch Society, chose the name because Birch was regarded as the first American to die at the hands of the Chinese

Reds after World War II.

"Birch was a man with no particularly distinguishing characteristics—a little stiff, perhaps, with a not very high regard for the Chinese, and somewhat self-important, but nothing unusual," Sample recalled. "If he had strong political convictions, they were not in evidence."

In the summer of 1945, when resumption of civil war appeared inevitable in China, Birch was assigned a mission in small team consisted of a staff sergeant, radio operator, interpreter and code clerk.

"The mission should have been routine," Sample said, except that when it arrived at its designated area it was met by a force of Chinese Reds.

"The Chinese were undeni-

ably disturbed by what seemed to them an intrusion into their area and demanded an explanation," Sample said.

"Some of them had undoubtedly never seen Americans before."

Capt. Birch chose to attempt to bluff his way out of a difficult situation. Harsh words led to insults, and insults to arrogance. Finally, in a fit of rage, the Chinese Communist leader shot Birch.

"The remainder of the team was released and returned to Kunming after an arduous trip on foot which consumed several weeks. The sergeant in com-

mand received a citation for the successful withdrawal.

"The news of Birch's death created a sensation at OSS headquarters, primarily because of the irony of his being killed after the war was over."

Sample said the Birch mission was not the first contact American forces had made with the Chinese Communists, nor was it the last.

"While succeeding OSS teams were more careful in their dealings with the Chinese Communists," Sample said, "there was no real object lesson in Birch's death and certainly no glory."

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# The Birch Society In Our Suburbs

By John Kay Adams

Chicago is a major center for the John Birch Society.

Recruiters for the war on domestic Communists have found good hunting, particularly in the northern suburbs.

A man close to the movement and in sympathy with it, estimates there are 1,000 John Birch members in the area from Chicago to Waukegan and from Lake Michigan to Park Ridge.

A Chicago manufacturer, Stillwell J. Conner, says he has enlisted 400 persons in the society by his own efforts.

Thousands of other residents of some of the richest residential neighborhoods in the Midwest have placed their names on mailing lists to receive literature from professional anti-Communists. They are busily organizing anti-Communist action groups and bankrolling the national society with their dues.

The focus is on Glenview where a permanent organization has been established to distribute literature and assign speakers for more

suburban anti-Communist crusades.

Glenview, at the center of activity, has felt the full impact of the society. The citizens

know the havoc such an organization can produce in the social fabric of a commuter suburb - Neighbors spy on neighbors, lifetime friends

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## CHICAGO SUNDAY SUN TIMES

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Part 1

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## THE BACKGROUND

Controversy swirls around the John Birch Society, which quietly picked up members across most of the nation in the last two years and now has popped dramatically into public view.

Its methods, including attacks on leading Americans, brought demands last week in Congress for investigations. The society is reported to be a subject of concern to the U.S. attorney general.

The Sun-Times has told the story of this organization in a series of three articles, researched nationwide by a United Press International reporting team. Now, beginning in this edition, The Sun-Times reports on the Chicago area tactics of the John Birch Society. This exclusive study was prepared by a team of staff members headed by John Kay Adams and including Frank Sullivan, John Rowley, Raymond Kennedy and Robert Kelly.

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avoid each other, and men and women speak guardedly in the fear of being branded either Reds or Fascists.

The Red hunters have set church against church and split the congregations of individual churches. Americanism has become a prime issue in the village election. Communist-fighters are distributing U.S. flag decals, and no prudent candidate for village office in Glenview can afford to be without visible proof of loyalty on his auto windshield.

In an atmosphere of mutual suspicion, Protestant and Roman Catholic leaders are quarreling in public, sometimes from the pulpit, over the suddenly resurrected issue of fighting Communists.

This is what the John Birch Society and another organization have done to Glenview

Turn to Page 26

in seven months.

Hampton came about through the machinations of a retired candy executive from Boston and a professional Communist hunter from California. They are Robert W. Welch, founder of the society, and Frederick C. Schwarz, of Long Beach, Calif., leader of the Christian Anti-Communist Crusade.

The official connection, if any, between the two Red hunters, is tenuous. It is probable that the two organizations have no direct link. But as a practical matter, the animosities and passions stirred up by one organization help recruit members for the other. Glenview has seen it happen.

While investigating activities of the John Birch Society locally, Sun-Times reporters interviewed its friends and enemies, including Conner, a member of the society's national board of directors.

#### They Sign Up

At an anti-Communist seminar for 300 people in Evanston last week, a reporter watched an amazing five-hour performance. Three young Navy enlisted men not only held their sophisticated audience spellbound, but signed them up to fight Communists in Evanston.

This rolling road show, performed 10 times a month, is complete with a movie climax. The movie is "Operation Abolition," a controversial attempt to support the hand of the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Subsequent articles in this series will present Conner's views, more details of the road show and the film and will relate them to each other.

But first, let's take a closer look at Glenview.

The day super-patriotism arrived in Glenview can be fixed exactly. It was last Aug. 29,



ISAIAH M. HAMPTON

FREDERICK C. SCHWARZ

when an "Education for American Security" school began at the Glenview Naval Air Station. It continued for four days. Servicemen attended free, and civilians paid \$20 for the course, \$5 a day or \$2 for one meeting.

#### Welcomed By Captain

The list of sponsors included the Glenview Chamber of Commerce, the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Capt. Isaiah M. Hampton, the station commander, welcomed the students.

The host and moderator, the man who ran the show, was Schwarz, executive director of the Christian Anti-Communist Crusade. The organization has headquarters in Long Beach and Houston.

Schwarz has been described by his friends as a dedicated anti-Communist and by his foes as a spellbinding pitchman who stops shouting only long enough to take up a collection.

He came to the United States from Australia in 1950, when he gave up the practice of medicine to be an evangelist. Later he switched to full-time anti-communism.

#### Navy Role Disputed

The Navy's role in the school became a matter of dispute. The official program was headed "The United States Naval Air Station, Glenview, Ill., Presents, Education for American Security." When citizens objected to the apparent Navy endorsement, public relations officers explained the Navy did,



REV. CALVIN W. ROBINSON



REV. JOHN J. DUSSMAN

not sponsor the program, but merely offered its facilities as a community service.

The objectors disliked the political content of the speeches which attacked the United Nations and the State Department as Red-dominated. Some observers did not believe the armed services would be appreciably strengthened by such accusations.

On the other side of the argument, Navy Reserve officers who had helped arrange the school were convinced it was a patriotic and useful program which should be continued. They formed an Education for American Security group which has a post office box number in Glenview. The office is in the same building as the Glenview Chamber of Commerce, but in separate quarters.

#### Dispute Continues

The dispute continues over the merits of the air station program, but by this time the whole affair seems ancient history. Arguments over the school created an atmosphere of tension hospitable to the action arm of the anti-Communists—the John Birch Society.

Soon the churches became involved in the argument over how best to fight Communists.

An open advocate of the John Birch Society is the Rev. John J. Dussman, pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church in Glenview.

Father Dussman says members of his parish have formed four John Birch chapters. He is not a member, but is in sympathy with the movement.

He said he has read "The Politician," Robert Welch's privately printed book in which the founder of the society labels former President Dwight D. Eisenhower a member of the Communist Party apparatus. Father Dussman says the book is "a sophomoric piece of fiction" and that Welch "certainly made a mistake in it."

However, Father Dussman denounced as "mental monorails" reporters and columnists who have described the society as Fascist in nature.

"If Welch ever were to become a Fascist, the members would leave him," said Father Dussman. "His organization is anti only one thing and that's communism."

Father Dussman said he heard about the John Birch Society at the security school at the naval air station. The movement appeals to him, he said, because of the dedicated character of the people involved.

#### 'Most Prayerful People'

He characterized the members of the society as "the most prayerful, most charitable people I know."

"I am not a member of the society," he said, "but I promote anything that is anti-Communist."

When asked about his position in relation to the church, Father Dussman said: "You know we don't discuss matters of this nature from the pulpit. We keep religion and politics separate."

Father Dussman thinks the John Birch movement is non-political, and that others are trying to make it political by attacking the society. This view is not shared unanimously by members of his own parish. Some told reporters that they disagree violently with Father Dussman on the John Birch issue.

#### Fierce Disputes

Within Protestant congregations in Glenview, fierce disputes have broken out over the same issue.

Father Dussman's opinions are widely known in Glenview through the weekly parish newsletter, the Clarion. It has a substantial Protestant readership. Some Protestants said they sometimes stroll into the church vestibule after mass to mingle with the crowd and obtain copies of the Clarion.

On March 19, the Clarion attacked the Christian Century, a liberal Protestant publication, because it had criticized the movie "Operation Abolition." Father Dussman wrote that he had learned someone had passed out copies of the Christian Century at a Protestant church gathering.

Wrote Father Dussman:

"To this, the church did a disservice to itself and this community and only played into the hands of the Reds, one of whose basic principles is: divide and conquer."

The Rev. Calvin W. Robinson of the First Methodist



Church of Glenview saw the parish news letter. He said that even though the incident mentioned in the Clarion did not occur in his church he felt compelled to refer to the John Birch Society in his sermon of March 26.

#### 'Not The Answer'

"I am disturbed over the techniques and tactics of the Pharisees who operate under the guise of Americanism," he said in the sermon. "The John Birch Society is not the answer to our problem in dealing with international communism. It has nothing new to offer. The John Birch Society is too Fascist in principle and practice."

Later, the Rev. Mr. Robinson told a reporter, "A spirit of suspicion is being mobilized in our front yard."

"Ordinarily, I attempt to avoid community politics," he continued. "But this is worse than the wrangling of small-time politics. I know that an education process is going on here that is false and un-American and that it is weakening the unity of the community."

There you have it. The priest, in his parish news letter accuses a Protestant church of playing "into the hands of the Reds."

A Protestant minister, from his pulpit, calls the John Birch Society "Fascist."

What is happening in Glenview is indicative of the individual tensions and strains. A few recent incidents:

Several previously friendly couples attended a dinner party. They got into a wrangle about the John Birch Society. A pro-John Birch couple stalked out before dinner was served, breaking up the party. The embarrassed hostess decided never to mix pro and anti John Birch couples again.

At a routine local political meeting, a speaker inadvertently referred to organizing the "party workers" to ~~get out the~~ village vote. His audience

flinched noticeably at the Communist phrase, and he nervously amended his remark. He also felt compelled to explain that he didn't actually mean "party workers."

A Glenview businessman was indicted in U.S. District Court on a charge of distributing unsigned inflammatory literature in a campaign for federal office.

A couple paid a social call on neighbors and asked where the wife was. The husband replied, "She'll be back. She's out hunting Communists."

Last week, a supermarket in Glenview advertised an Easter special—Polish hams. The manager promptly received a letter threatening a John Birch boycott of his store unless he got rid of "those Communist hams."

MONDAY Recruiting by the anti-Communists.

## CONSERVATIVE LEADER BACKS BIRCH SOCIETY

BY GEORGE TAGGE

Kent Courtney, whose Independent American Forum will attract attendance from about half the states at a rally here April 13, 14, and 15, told THE TRIBUNE yesterday that he is the leader of the John Birch society chapter in New Orleans.

Robert H. W. Welch, founder of the society in 1958, was a speaker at the Independent American Forum here Oct. 23, 1959, Courtney recalled. Welch also addressed a Goldwater for President rally held here last July, with Courtney as a leading sponsor.

May Ask Investigation

A spokesman for the department of justice said last

week that Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy is "concerned" about the Birch society. Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D., Conn.) said he will raise the question of whether there should be an investigation by the Senate internal security subcommittee.

"The Independent American Forum has no official tie-in with the Birch society," Courtney, publisher of a political newspaper in New Orleans, told THE TRIBUNE. "In general, we approve of the anti-communist program of the society."

✓ "There is no rivalry at all. We coordinate our efforts to some extent. My newspaper publishes material about the society, and tells people how to join."

Both Against Warren

Courtney said his movement has sold 70,000 copies of a pamphlet entitled, "Impeach Earl Warren". The John Birch society also has fulminated against Chief Justice Warren of the Supreme

court, and a flood of letters has reached congressmen on this subject.

Rep. Edgar W. Hiestand (R., Cal.), a member of the society, will speak at a banquet sponsored by the Forum on April 14. He has defended the society in Congress.

Other speakers will include Tom Anderson, Nashville, Tenn., publisher of Farm and Ranch magazine and a council member of the Birch society; former Gov. J. Bracken Lee of Utah; Bryton Barron, author of "Inside the State Department," and Dr. Medford Evans, former editor of Facts Forum magazine, who is billed as having helped expose Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer as a security risk.

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## SENATOR RIPS WELCH

BY WILLIAM MOORE  
[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

Washington, April 3—The John Birch society and its president, Robert Welch, came under attack in the Senate again today, this time from Sen. Stephen Young [D., O.].

Young called Welch the "little Hitler," and the fuhrer.

Young told the Senate the society is a "fascist group," and said it is "well larded with right wing crackpots."

"Unfortunately," Young went on, "these radicals of the right in the so-called Birch society in many communities have been practicing character assassination without regard for the truth, threatening merchants with boycotts, threatening college professors and school principals with dismissal."

"They spread fear, hatred and suspicion. They even are proposing infiltration in such fine, worthwhile civic organizations as the Parent-Teacher association."

Meanwhile, Rep. John H. Rousselot [R., Cal.] defended the society, but not Welch, in a statement.

Rousselot, a society member, said he joined it because it is designed to combat the communist threat. It is made up basically of study groups, Rousselot said, which investigate communism and pass their findings along.

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# BIRCH OFFICER SAYS KENNEDY HAS WEAK AIDS

Reds Will Profit from  
Policy, He Warns

Champaign, Ill., April 3 (UPI)—A national officer of the John Birch society said today the Kennedy administration includes "weak-in-the-head" personalities whose policy will benefit communist conspiracy.

Revilo Pendleton Oliver, professor of classics at the University of Illinois and a council member of the ultra-conservative society, said President Kennedy's loyalty to the United States would be in question unless he rids himself of "political payoffs" in the administration.

Oliver refused to name any of the "payoffs."

## "Profit to Reds"

"I'm not going to be interviewed about them one after another," he said. "But a net result of their policy will be the profit of an international Red conspiracy."

He said he had "no means of knowing whether President Kennedy is a Communist or not," but added that a "whole list of administration appointees endangers the security of the United States."

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# How Birch Group Recruiters Use Student Riot Film

The controversial John Birch Society has quietly picked up members across most of the nation in the last two years and now has come dramatically into public view.

Its methods, including attacks on leading Americans, brought demands in Congress last week for investigations. The society is reported to be a subject of concern to the U.S. attorney general.

The Sun-Times has told the story of this organization in a series of three articles, researched nationwide by a United Press International reporting team. Now The Sun-Times is reporting on the Chicago area tactics of the John Birch Society in this exclusive study prepared by a team of five staff members.

By John Kay Adams

"Operation Abolition" is the name of a controversial movie produced with the help of the House Un-American Activities Committee.

It is made up of film clips subpoenaed by the House committee from television cameramen who photographed a subcommittee hearing in San Francisco last May. The show includes movies taken in the hearing room and outside the San Francisco City Hall.

It also has dubbed-in commentaries by Rep. Francis E. Walter (D-Pa.), chairman of the House committee, and members of the subcommittee. The narrative is by Fulton Lewis III, a member of the House committee staff.

The film purports to show at the student "riots" in front of the San Francisco City Hall where students were led by Communist agitators and that the students were "dupes" of the Reds. Toward the end of the film, a committee member states: "It is happening here in America. Communists will destroy the House Un-American Activities Committee and our entire national security."

**A Messy Production, But —** Friends and foes agree that the 45-minute movie is an artistic and technical mess. The soundtrack is raucous and the pictures often blurred or shaky. "Operation Abolition, in a sense of speaking, is a box office smash.

It has been playing in the Chicago area to thousands of servicemen, civic leaders, college students and schoolchildren. More than 750 reprints have been made by a private company in Washington, D.C., and sold for \$100 each. Chairman Walter estimates that more than 10,000,000 people in the nation have seen the film since its release last July.

"Operation Abolition," the first congressional venture in film editing, deserves a review in this report of John Birch Society activity in the Chicago area.

## Chicago Area Members

A man sympathetic with and knowledgeable of the Communist-fighting methods of the John Birch Society says the group has 1,000 members in the northern suburbs from Chicago to Waukegan. The founder, Robert W. Welch of Boston, writes in the Blue Book of the John Birch Society that he is attempting to form a nationwide nucleus of 1,000,000 wealthy and influential anti-Communists. In his Blue Book, Welch also advocates the for-

mation of front organizations to support the society.

Sun-Times reporters found that other Red-hunting groups serve Welch indirectly by bringing domestic Communist-fighters together in study groups. Members of the John Birch Society attending such study groups can get to know the recruits and invite the most

zealous to join the society.

At the same time "Operation Abolition," which is designed to inspire searches for domestic Communists, serves as a recruiting film for the John Birch Society.

## How Film Is Used

The film is frequently shown as the closing feature of an anti-Communist program or seminar. Most members of the audience, roused to fervent anti-communism by the preceding speeches, are unable to examine the production with detachment.

In introducing the film, a speaker may appear to give both sides of the controversy over the movie without actually doing so.

The controversy over "Operation Abolition" has two sides.

The movie has been commended by J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Hoover supports the police account of the affair that a student started the riot by jumping over a barricade and striking a policeman. Prominent publications, including the National Review, and several fundamentalist Protestant groups agree with the House committee charges that Communist agitators led the students.

## CHICAGO SUN TIMES

5 Star Final Turf Edition

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Editor EMMETT DEDMON

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### Review Charges Against It

As others disagree with this version, it is appropriate, in view of the wide showing here of "Operation Abolition" to deal in some detail with points raised against the film.

The main argument revolves around the question of whether the students were stirred to violence by Communists or whether the San Francisco police work was so ineffective that the crowd got out of control.

The Rev. Robert W. Moon, pastor of the First Methodist Church in Fresno, Calif., criticized the film presentation in an article in the Christian Century, a Protestant weekly published in Chicago. He called the film "a startling piece of propaganda."

"Students from several Bay Area colleges and universities decided to exercise their lawful rights of protest and petition by picketing the hearings," wrote the Rev. Mr. Moon.

"Among other things they were concerned about the committee's refusal to publish their sources of information and to allow witnesses the opportunity to cross-examine their accusers."

"The students took careful precautions to guard against infiltration of their ranks by outsiders; each wore an identifying arm band. They agreed that there was to be no violence and they would follow their own chosen leaders and not be

misled by any subversive persons who might be around."

### He Cites Provocations

Some of the students were provoked, he continued, by the failure of officials to keep their promise to allocate to some of the students seats in the hearing room and by the fumbling and brutality of policemen on the scene.

"The students became noisy—too noisy," he wrote. "Finally the officers on duty turned fire hoses on them and literally washed them out of the building where the hearings were being held."

The Rev. Mr. Moon argues that the film narrator talks about initial violence by the students, but there are no pictures of such violence. He contends that by editing the film clippings and not showing them in proper sequence, the committee staff changed the order of events. He said this involved more than a technicality because the impression created is that agitation by known Communists led directly to the "riot."

### Charges Distortion

"My concern is not to defend the students," concluded the Rev. Mr. Moon. "Some of them were provoked into doing what they should not have done. My concern is that an agency of our government should have a hand in a distortion of the actual story so gross that the net effect is a lie."

"The House Un-American Activities Committee has had a great deal to say about dishonesty of Communists. Yet, in its part in the doctoring of this film, it has resorted to dishonest tactics of the same sort as those used by Communists."

This interpretation of the events at San Francisco is supported by others. The Washington Post called the production

"Forgery by Film." Time magazine commented that "nobody comes off very well in 'Operation Abolition.'" The San Francisco News-Call Bulletin investigated and supported the critics of the film.

### Reporter Tells Brutality

The Congressional Record quotes Mel Wax, a former reporter for The Sun-Times who is now on the San Francisco Chronicle staff. Commenting on

Turn to Page 18

### Continued from Page 6

police methods, he wrote: "... never in 20 years as a reporter have I seen such brutality."

The students claim, with a tape recording for support, that they had permission from the sheriff of San Francisco County to remain in the rotunda, and wait to be admitted to the hearing room on a first-come basis.

Among the critics of the film are the Jesuit weekly, America, Episcopal Bishop James A. Pike and the National Council of Churches. After making its own investigation, the National Council urged Protestant ministers "not to exhibit the film unless a full and fair presentation" of all the facts is made.

### Reaction In Evanston

A reporter heard the film introduced at a public meeting in the Evanston Elks Club on March 28. Most of the 300 per-



sons present were business and professional men and their wives. The anti-Communist seminar began at 7 p.m. and three long, emotional anti-Communist speeches preceded the film. Although the movie was not introduced until 11 p.m., nearly all of the people stayed to see it.

Milton J. Fick, a chief radar man at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center and co-ordinator of the seminar, delivered the introduction.

"This is a controversial film," Fick said. "A good many patriotic American people are against this film, and I'm not going to tell you that because someone is against this film he is a Communist. I don't know what these people are, but I don't think they are necessarily Communists."

#### Tells Information-Sources

During this speech, Fick suggested that members of the audience write to various organizations in California and elsewhere to get more information about the film. He recited the addresses of several groups favoring the "Operation Abolition" version of the student riots including a group of fundamentalist Protestant ministers in California.

Fick mentioned the Christian Century account, criticizing the film and suggested Protestants could get reprints from their ministers. He added that Roman Catholics in the audience might talk to a priest who could get it from a Protestant minister. Fick did not give the address of the

Christian Century which is published in Chicago.

Commenting on criticisms of the film, Fick said:

#### Editing Is Explained

"The critics say this film has been edited. Of course it has been edited to make it understandable. The film is 45 minutes long and the hearings lasted three days. If it had not been edited you would have to sit through three days.

"They say this film shows events out of sequence. I don't know. I was not there, but I know what I see in the film."

"The critics say there was police brutality. You can determine if you are seeing police brutality. You look at the film

and you decide for yourselves."

Fick ended his presentation this way:

"My conclusion is that this film should be seen by every person in this country with a proper introduction. But you look at the film. You judge for yourselves."

Then the film was shown. Its action highlight is a scene where the police turn fire hoses on student sit-down demonstrators, grab them by their heels and bounce them down the 34 steps of the city hall.

Men and women in the audience laughed



Police drag demonstrator from scene during San Francisco riot in 1960.



Police scuffle with students on steps of San Francisco City Hall during the May, 1960, riot. Scenes of this event appear in the movie "Operation Abolition."



## Senate Unit To Decide on Birch Probe

Subcommittee  
Meets April 12

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate internal security subcommittee will meet April 12 to decide whether it will investigate the John Birch Society.

Both critics and supporters of the right-wing group have urged a congressional probe to get the facts on its aims, activities and membership.

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IN OTHER developments Tuesday, the Army made public extracts from the service record of Capt. John B. Birch, and Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) said that some months ago he turned down an offer to become a member of the society's council.

Robert Welch, the society's founder, has called Birch "the First casualty in the third world war being the Communists and the ever-shrinking free world."

Birch was a Baptist missionary to China before World War II. He was commissioned in the Army Air Force after the fighting began.

Army records show Birch twice was decorated for behind-the-lines intelligence work in China during the war against Japan.

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GOLDWATER, a conservative leader, said he never had joined the Birch Society and refused to become a member of its council.

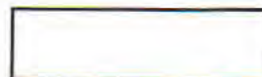
He told a news conference last week that while he disagreed with many of the society's theories, he was impressed by the type of people in it.

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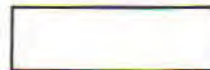
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# Rightist Here Backs Birch Society

*'We, the People!' Aide Blames  
Attacks on News Commentators*

BY ROBERT G. SCHULTZ

The leader of a Chicago-based national right-wing organization leaped to the defense Wednesday of the controversial John Birch Society.

Harry T. Everingham, executive vice president of We, The People!

said the "savage attack" on the society was started by "left-wing columnists and news commentators."

✓ It has now been taken up by leftist publishers and editors



EVERINGHAM

THE BIRCH Society burst into national attention with the disclosure that its founder and leader, Robert H. W. Welch Jr., had labeled former President Eisenhower a "dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist Party."

Welch had also called for the impeachment of U.S. Chief Justice Earl Warren.

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Everingham, a former advertising man and publicist, said the press should "stop their attack" on the Birch Society and go to work "exposing the Communist influences behind the peace marches and other efforts designed to destroy the morale of the U.S. and weaken the will to resist the Communist takeover of America."

AS FOR Welch's charges against Mr. Eisenhower, Everingham said the Birch Society leader never actually "cited" Eisenhower as a Communist.

"He showed that Ike was duped and influenced by them," said Everingham. "Now they talk of having Welch before a congressional hearing."

"If they do, they'll regret it. He has ample documentation to prove his point. Castro wouldn't be in Cuba today if Ike had not been duped and influenced by the Communists."

ASKED if he thought Mr. Eisenhower had been a Communist tool, Everingham said:

"I would say almost all of our government officials have been subject to influence by Communist forces working within pressure groups in the United States."

For his own part, Everingham did not care to comment on Welch's call for the im-

peachment of Chief Justice Warren.

In 1957, however, the We. The People group adopted a resolution calling on the House of Representatives "to immediately bring impeachment proceedings" against Warren and all other justices of the court "found to be guilty of conspiring with him to aid enemies of our republic."

EVERINGHAM'S organization, with headquarters at 111 N. Wabash, is one of several dozen right-wing organizations that have sprouted since World War II.

They have had a variety of names—For America, National Committee for Economic Freedom, Freedom Club, American Coalition, American Real Property Federation, Campaign for 48 States, American Progress Foundation, National States Rights Conference, Abraham Lincoln National Republican Club.

Some have fizzled. Others have assumed other names. Many have splintered off or have "specialized."

Everingham refers to his organization and the others as "patriotic organizations," although he agrees that they could properly be called "right-wing."

WITH ALL the "right" organizations to pick from, how would a conservative choose, Everingham was asked.

"We believe in freedom of choice and, of course, we believe patriotic organizations should compete with one an-

other for members by offering better services," he said.

Most patriotic organizations pretty much agree on broad principles, said Everingham, "but many have specialized in one or two fields."

"Our organization believes in writing to Congress. That's our forte. We are now building a minuteman network to encourage people to provide leadership for alerting their friends and neighbors when a bill is up in Congress that is socialistic."

EVERINGHAM said that his group and all patriotic organizations agree that the Communists are working in at least four ways to weaken the United States and "disarm us for the take-over."

These are, he said:

— "Military disarmament — urging us to give up nuclear weapons and overseas bases through disarmament pacts which the Reds would never keep."

— "Political disarmament — destroying our constitutional safeguards and national independence by placing us under world government."

— "Economic disarmament — creating ever higher debt, taxes, living costs, loss of markets, loss of jobs and finally government controls and regimentation under socialism."

— "Moral disarmament — destroying our patriotism and the morality of our youth and terrifying our people with the threat of nuclear warfare to destroy our will to resist."

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Pros and Cons on John Birch Society

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THANK YOU for your editorial on the John Birch Society. I believe that the highest responsibility for combatting extremists of the left should belong to the responsible liberal elements in our society.

Likewise, the fight against right extremists should be carried on by the responsible conservatives. Such, I believe is the case with The Daily News.

Historically, the problems of our country have been solved by compromise between responsible elements of varying philosophies. The extremists reject compromise and thereby show their basic contempt for democracy.

Ultimately, since the bulk of society is frightened into the other camp, the extremists only destroy those nearest them.

Thus it was in self-protection that the left extremists were driven from power in the labor movement by liberals like Murray, Carey and Reuther. And the frontal attack on Sen. McCarthy was begun not by the liberals, but by Senators Watkins and Flanders and the Army.

This fight with the Birch Society will be won by responsible conservatives.

Chicago H. RADTKE

CONGRATULATIONS

your excellent editorial pointing out that the efforts of the John Birch Society are far more radical than conservative.

It is commonly said that the methods of such radical groups are bad but that their aims are good. We agree with the implication of your editorial that both the methods and aims are bad.

The Birch radicals are busy undermining confidence in the Presidents of the United States, repeatedly attacking the U.S. Supreme Court, and preaching that causes such as anti-colonialism and civil rights are really Red.

I SUSPECT that to call the Birch Society anti-Communism is inaccurate. I would think that the Communists are happy with what the Birch people are doing—confusing people about the loyalty of their own leaders. The Communists would like nothing better than to have Americans believe the Birch line.

Catholics who have been nagged by the Birch people would do well to study the

papal letter on atheistic communism. Measuring the Birch aims against the papal teaching on communism would quickly cast doubts on the attitudes of the John Birch Society as effective anti-communism.

PATRICK F. CROWLEY,  
President, Catholic Council on Working Life  
Chicago

I AM in complete agreement with your editorial condemning the activities of the John Birch Society.

JEROME NEWBERGER  
Chicago

WE ARE readers who are incensed and sickened by what we have read about the John Birch Society. The setting up of a vigilante force to foster distrust and spying is certainly not American.

Who is this man who can smear our Presidents and get away with it? What can we, the little Americans who believe in the ideals of democracy, do?

MR. & MRS. S. J. FRER  
Oak Park

I WOULD like to say that if the present we have only vague ideas of what the organization

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an is all about. However, if it is in an underground and secret manner, I would be against it regardless of the goals it has in mind, but why hasn't the organization come out into the open?

A. J. STRATMEYER

Chicago

EXPOSING the "super-patriotic and Communist" organization known as the John Birch Society was a most important service that you have provided for the clear-thinking citizen.

Certainly it is quite obvious that this extreme reactionary outfit, although professing to be "conservatives and anti-Communists," are actually Fascists. The public has the good sense to see through a "phony" when it gets the true facts.

ROBERT D. MORRIS

Chicago

CONGRATULATIONS on labelling that so-called "conservative" John Birch Society as radical in techniques of informing, secrecy and unbelievable accusations of dedicated Americans as perfect Communist methods.

The organization is duping the American people and is serving the Kremlin by creating suspicion and disunity among loyal, yet naive, Americans.

MRS. J. H. LAMY

Chicago

# YOUR EDITORIAL concerning the John Birch Society

another in a rather long line of anti anti-Communist diatribes that emanate from your paper.

You imply that Robert W. Welch's ideas and opinions (published privately some years ago) are integral parts of, and beliefs held by members of, the John Birch Society.

Several members of the society have never agreed with Mr. Welch's suspicions concerning particular individuals.

HOWEVER, most members seem to believe that the present-day society performs a much needed patriotic function—that of a strong counterchallenge to communism.

I am not a member of the society and have not had the opportunity to investigate it fully.

However, if I were editorializing in a mass circulation newspaper such as yours, I certainly would study the organization quite thoroughly before I went on record to denounce both Mr. Welch and the entire society as having "... a philosophy not less radical than Marxism, but surely pointing in the direction of fascism."

Someday we may realize that in fighting a Communist we are fighting an adversary who has no scruples or morals as we know them.

To allow this alien subversive asylum in the United States to work for our eventual downfall as a free people and to further grant him the protection of our Constitution and our courts, is akin to giving a homicidal maniac a razor and then pointing out our own regulations.

JAMES F. MOORE

Arlington Heights

IF ROOSEVELT had been as nice to Hitler and his Nazis as Truman and Eisenhower were to Stalin and Khrushchev and the Communists, you mean to say he would not have been branded as pro-Nazi for just being that nice?

Chicago JAMES LESLIE

DON'T YOU remember that Gen. Eisenhower was not able to explain Americanism to Soviet Gen. Zhukov at the end of World War II?

Eisenhower has been too busy being a general and a President to know all about the fine points of Americanism vs. communism.

So he should not be blamed for not realizing how much help he gave to their cause when he entertained Koslov, Mikoyan, Khrushchev, etc.

GORDON TOOMEY

Chicago

YOU ASKED for this in your editorial condemnation of the John Birch Society—and I cast my vote against The Daily News and for the society.

I am not a member, but I do know something of its principles and practices.

The only people who have anything to fear from the society are those groups from which it is trying to save America.

MILTON F. NELSON

Chicago

IF, as it has been stated, the John Birch Society is an organization whose avowed aim is to fight communism, then why is it such a matter of concern to the Justice Department?

The public has a right to know why, after sinking billions into defense against Russia and the Communies, every newspaper apparently is taking sides against a tiny group of Americans who, it seems, are trying to throw light on a very bad situation.

MARTIN RIRGER

Chicago

YOUR editorial on the John Birch Society is not logical and helps the Communist aims. To start with, the extreme statements attributed to Mr. Welch should be verified before he is condemned.

He has offered to answer all questions of a Senate investigating committee without taking the Fifth Amendment.

This is more than many of his enemies have been willing to do.

Certainly no one should be afraid to take him up on his offer. If it is shown that Mr. Welch is, in fact, an extremist, the society should fire him, but the society should not be branded.

I. F. LAVENEY

Chicago

# Chicagoan Tells Why Some Foes Of Reds Can't Join Birch Unit

By John Kay Adams

The John Birch Society does not recruit openly. It finds its members by inviting the most ardent anti-Communists to join after they have been preselected by others.

The process starts at public anti-Communist meetings and seminars where the society is never mentioned. The audience is unaware that the only anti-Communist program being offered coincides with the John Birch plan.

Speakers present the program without the John Birch label, then drive home the lesson with the emotion-packed, controversial movie "Operation Abolition."

## Listeners Urged To Act

At the public meetings, men and women are urged to write for more information and join the fight against communism by forming study groups in their homes, PTAs, churches and civic clubs.

At this point, near the beginning, there is an automatic sorting. Those who do not write lack sufficient zeal for the John Birch Society. Robert W. Welch of Boston wants only the dedicated, hard-core people in his proposed national society of 1,000,000 members.

Those who do write to recommended addresses do not receive any new material. Instead they are offered film and tape recordings for rent and books and pamphlets for sale. There is nothing from ~~the~~ prolific press.

## How Chapter Is Born

The study groups are formed and the similarities with the John Birch program are not disclosed.

Finally, when a study group is ready, a John Birch organizer introduces himself and is invited to present his program. He speaks to 10 or 20 people in a private home and another John Birch chapter is on its way.

This last step is not possible until the preliminaries have been completed by people who, sometimes unknowingly, have been serving the John Birch cause from the beginning.

Writing on Page 91 in the Blue Book of the society, Welch recommends the use of fronts.

"We can certainly keep this whole front operation from being so one-sided as it has been," he wrote. "We can stop letting the Communists have the whole effective use of this weapon practically by default. . . ."

Elsewhere in the handbook, Welch writes that his "best friends and strongest supporters" will be found among "devout Catholics and fundamentalist Protestants."

Sun-Times reporters investigating the society found everything going according to the book.

## How They Operate

~~The same~~ and effect relationship between community ex-

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CHICAGO SUN TIMES	
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citement over Red-baiting and formation of a John Birch chapter was outlined by a priest. He is the Rev. Paul Cull of the Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church in Waukegan, who directs various study groups in his church. Among other things, they study communism.

One group is devoted only to the study of communism and "gets its material from the Navy," said Father Cull. The Anti-Communist Seminar led by sailors from the Great Lakes Naval Training Center has played in Waukegan four times, twice in Immaculate Conception parish.

Father Cull and two other priests were among a small group invited to the home of one of the members of the communism study group. An organizer from Chicago was a guest. He spoke to the gathering urging formation of a John Birch chapter.

#### Priests Withdraw

The priests withdrew, but others formed the chapter, believing in their hearts that it was the right and moral thing to do.

The busiest John Birch organizer in the Chicago area is Stillwell J. Conner, 50, of 6657 N. Sioux, Chicago. He is president of the Conroth Co., at 2400 Greenleaf, in Elk Grove Village.

Conner said he has "personally organized 400 members, mostly in the northern suburbs" since 1959.

(Another estimate by a friend of the society places the total John Birch membership between Chicago and Waukegan at 1,000.)

Conner is a member of the board of directors of the society. He said he knew Welch personally and for a long time before Welch started his mono-

lithic society in Indianapolis in December, 1958.

#### 'He Knew So Much'

"I had spent many hours with Bob discussing the Communist menace," said Conner. "I knew so little and he knew so much. He is a very forthright man, a very intelligent and a very patriotic man. He reeks with love of country and patriotism and you sense it as you ask penetrating questions."

"Mostly Americans think in terms of the Soviets as our enemy. Bob sees the threat as from within."

Conner added that Welch spent two days in Chicago in July, 1959, outlining his proposals for an organization.

"I thought it was noble and worthwhile, but in the beginning, I thought I'd just contribute money," said Conner. "But after Bob talked about this in Chicago, outlining for two days the history of government and the threat of government, I decided to contribute more to what looks to me like a noble cause."

#### 22 In His Group

Conner organized a chapter in the Edgebrook section of Chicago. He said there are 22 members in his own group.

He declined to identify members in this area because he feels the society is "under fire."

Conner argues that the society is not secret because membership is open to anyone.

The principal program, according to Conner, is to write letters and "flood congressmen and others with our side of the issues."

In the past, said Conner, the Communists have said that they have been able to get 50,000

letters written to any given person within 48 hours.

"We hope the time will come when the efficiency of the letter-writing technique will be destroyed," he said. "We will so dominate it that it will lose all significance."

#### Pressure On Libraries

Another project is for members to request certain books at local libraries.

"If we keep asking systematically," he said, "the libraries will eventually order the books."

Commenting on internal discipline in John Birch Society chapters already formed, Conner said:

"If someone for example would begin to heckle, he would be told this is not for you. He would be given his dues back and we would ask him not to come again. We would say thank you and God bless you."

There is a system of both voluntary and paid co-ordinators, Conner said. They go to new chapters to check on activities.

"You could have a chapter that goes screwy," he said. "Any organization, no matter how lofty its ideals, may attract some screwballs. We try to appeal to the worthy quality in people but sometimes you get people who aren't worthy."

"The charge against us of anti-Semitism is an absolute lie," Conner said. "We are not that stupid. I resent this more than anything else."

"You can't get off the ground for any cause or for any purpose in America and be anti-Semitic. Our appeal is not predicated on getting the stupid in."



STILLWELL J. CONNER

# Be Open, Douglas Tells Birch Society

BY SHERI GILES

Sen. Douglas today challenged members of the John Birch society to "give up their secrets and come out in the open."

"I have nothing against conservatives voicing opinions if they come out into the open," said the Illinois senior senator who was reached by CHICAGO'S AMERICAN in his Washington office.

But the controversial society received guarded support from Illinois State Sen. Paul Broyles (R., Mt. Vernon), author of the loyalty oath law, and officers of the American Legion reported they are "checking into" the society's activities.

## Has 3 Objections

Sen. Douglas said he welcomes a "free discussion of issues." He said he based his objections to the Birch society, however, on these points: [1] its membership is secret, [2] it is monolithic, or under one man control, [3] it defines communism "too broadly."

"Under their definition, anyone who believes in the income tax or the 14th



SEN. PAUL DOUGLAS  
Three objections

Amendment is a Communist," said Douglas. He termed ridiculous the charge made by the society's leader, Robert Welch, that former Presidents Eisenhower, Truman, and Roosevelt were agents or tools of the Communists.

"I think the good sense of the American citizens will repudiate these claims," Douglas said.

## Calls Intentions Good

Sen. Broyles, author of the hotly disputed Broyles anti-subversive loyalty oath, said he believes the intentions of the society are good, but said he feels they may have "overextended themselves."

Broyles, who headed the Seditious Activities commis-

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sion, said he is "viciously against communism." He took a modified stand on Welch's charges against Eisenhower and others.

"I personally would be cautious about labeling people Communists without proof," he said.

"Eisenhower should have taken more aggressive steps against a communist growth that has been making continuous headway since 1930, but it's ridiculous to call him a communist tool."

#### Legion to Investigate

Clarence E. Brooks of Carmi, Ill., departmental commander of the American Legion in Illinois, said the Legion would reserve official opinion until it concludes an investigation.

Atty. Joseph Rubinelli, chairman of the Legion's five man counter-subversive committee, said his group will make a report to the state convention in July.

"Personally, I feel the society's motives are idealistic and wonderful," Rubinelli said, "but perhaps they are going about it in the wrong way. You can't call somebody a Communist just because he disagrees with you."

#### "Motivation" Study

Rubinelli said he is attempting to evaluate the society's membership in Illinois, and will interview members to analyze their "motivations." According to Birch society



JOSEPH RUBINELLI  
Plans analysis

literature, among its committee of indorsers are such prominent Illinoisans as Atty. Max Pray of Chicago; Atty. Theodore A. Miller, a former assistant state's attorney who in 1955 charged Communists had infiltrated the Chicago Bar association; and George H. Williamson, candy manufacturer, civic leader, and former president of the board of directors of the Illinois Manufacturers association.

# THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Herald, Ill., April 2.—The vicious, prolonged attacks upon Robert Welch, national head of the John Birch society, evidence an utter confusion in the upper echelons of our cluttered democracy.

If the attorney general can find nothing better to

propose over than an anti-communist organization dedicated to a fight against alienist subversion, the justice department is in a bad way. Granting for the sake of argument that the remarks of Mr. Welch have at times been inappropriate, mistaken, overzealous, or even irresponsible, the fact remains that Mr. Welch is an American citizen with liberties of free speech and association. If he chooses to exercise those freedoms by an attack upon the policies of an administration, or upon individuals responsible for the formulation and direction of those policies, then that is a legitimate exercise of freedom in a free land.

The attorney general could better spend his precious time in ferreting out subversion and subversives, labor racketeering, and management dishonesty and in curbing the criminal syndicate.

There is little or no threat of dictatorship from the John Birch society, and there is a threat from the communist conspiracy. When Khrushchev is welcomed as a guest and Joe McCarthy is the victim of "renewals," when Robert Welch is considered a "mutter of rumors" and Alger Hiss a "red herring," one wonders what our forefathers would think.

THOMAS HANNEY

Chicago, March 30.—As a Catholic, I am totally committed in opposition to atheistic communism. I am also opposed

to totalitarianism of any kind, with no contrary to Christian morality and the American democratic way.

I couldn't have been more shocked than by Mr. Trohan's article in today's Tribune on the Birch society. The parallel between the Nazis and the Birch society is all too frightening to be casually dismissed. Both groups supported and were supported by otherwise reputable conservative people, including men in public life. Both groups played on racism; both found civil liberty and democracy weak and dangerous concepts. Worse—and why didn't Trohan mention this—are the similarities employed in smear campaigns, in attacking by anonymous calls people whose ideas they fear.

I would suggest that this group, under the cloak of anti-communism, is as dangerous to freedom as any communist movement. Indeed, I'd say that this group is in effect trying to establish in this nation the very system we crushed in Germany after a long bitter war.

JAMES A. KENNEDY

Glenview, March 31.—I have been reading about the John Birch society with great interest.

Several of our friends have become avid followers of the society's doctrine. To hear them talk is enough to make you sick. It boils down to the fact that you can't trust anyone because he might be a Communist.

This fanatical group, in my estimation, is undermining the security of our country.

Mrs. ROYCE GARRICK

Chicago, March 30.—It was good to read the story on the John Birch society written by Walter Trohan. I have read so many confusing statements it was difficult to make an appraisal. It seems the moment a patriotic society makes a mistake they call it a "hate group." I am thankful for the information disclosed.

VINCENT L. KRAUS

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# Warns Birch Quiz Can Backfire

## Goldwater Tells His Views

Washington, April 5 (UPI) — Sen. Barry Goldwater (R., Ariz.) said today he knew "liberal Democrats as well as conservative Republicans" who are members of the John Birch society.

Goldwater, a spokesman for the G. O. P. conservative bloc, told reporters there would be "a lot of embarrassed people" in Congress if an investigation of the society were launched.

Representatives Eogar W. Hiestand and John H. Rousset, both California Republicans, are the only members of Congress who have said they are members of the organization.

### Hits Hasty Criticism

Goldwater, Senate G. O. P. campaign chairman, said in an interview that any member of Congress would be foolish to denounce the anti-communist society until he knew more about it. He said a hasty critic might find himself attacking some of the prominent residents of his city or state.

Some members of Congress have criticized the John Birch society as a secret movement which they said could split the nation on the communist issue. Some have called for an investigation.

Goldwater defended John Birch members as generally impressive, intelligent people. He said the group's objective was to fight communism and for that reason should not be labeled ultra-conservative. He said the John Birch society, like all organizations, might have some members "who slip."

The senator made it clear

he would not embrace the writings of Robert Welch, retired Massachusetts candy maker who founded the society. He commented that Welch had "said some very unfortunate things."

Goldwater could not recall having said, as reported by Newsweek magazine, that the John Birch society should "get rid of Bob Welch" and every other member demanding impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren.

In New York, a spokesman said Newsweek was "fully satisfied that Senator Goldwater's statement is accurate as quoted in the magazine."

### Finds Many Interested

"I think every man has a right to say Warren should be impeached," Goldwater said. "But I don't agree with the assumption, just as I don't

agree with a lot of Warren's decisions."

Asked how he first learned of the John Birch society, Goldwater replied:

"Everywhere I've been around the country I have been getting questions from very attractive people—those in the 35 to 38 age group, the very ones our party is trying to attract. . . . the age at which a man begins to climb—asking what I think about the John Birch society."

"I had to tell them I didn't know anything about it. I hadn't read the society's prospectus. But I since have read it and have been told some changes have been made."

In answer to another question, Goldwater said he did not think the controversy over the society had made it more difficult for him to promote the conservative viewpoint.

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# **Birch Society Ridiculous: Bob Kennedy**

WASHINGTON (UPI)  
Atty.Gen. Robert F. Kennedy  
said Thursday he considers the  
John Birch Society "ridiculous"  
and a "hindrance" in the fight  
against communism.

Kennedy was asked for his  
reaction of the society during a  
news conference.

"I think they are ridiculous,"  
he said. "I don't think anyone  
should pay any attention to  
them. I don't think they make  
any progress in the fight against  
communism—they are a hindrance."

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# Goldwater's Birch View Assailed

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.)



SEN. HUMPHREY

Thursday took sharp issue with a GOP leader's claim that the anti-Communist John Birch Society was made up of "impressive" people whose investigation would embarrass Congress.

The Senate Democratic whip, replying to comment by Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) said that "some of the 'best people' praised Hitler and Mussolini, too."

Humphrey said in an interview that the two fascist leaders rose to power raising the cry of anticommunism, but they

were antipeople, antifreedom, antidemocracy."

Goldwater previously told a reporter that the "sole purpose" of the John Birch Society, whose call for impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren has brought demands for a congressional investigation, was to "fight communism."

He said it should not be dubbed ultra-conservative for that reason and added: "I know liberal Democrats as well as conservative Republicans who belong."

HUMPHREY, a long-time liberal, brushed off the GOP campaign chairman's statement that John Birch members he had met were people of "high quality."

"What the free world needs are leaders who are not only anti-Communist, but pro-freedom and pro-justice," Humphrey said.

"Tyranny and bigotry in any form is evil. I'd suggest that these 'best people' demonstrate their good sense by getting out

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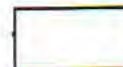
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# Manion Tells Goals Of The John Birch Society

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By John Kay Adams

Clarence E. Manion and other members of the national council of the John Birch Society in the Chicago area and Illinois described their roles with the organization in interviews with The Sun-Times.

Manion said he serves on a 26-man council directing the society toward these prime objectives:

"To fight communism and increase the area of personal moral responsibility, and to re-establish the constitutional limitations on the powers of government."

Manion, of South Bend, is the founder of the Manion Forum, a radio series.

## Warren Is Target

He said an immediate goal of the society is to seek the impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren "because under the court there has been a succession of pro-Communist decisions and a more-or-less emasculation of state rights."

Manion was questioned about a statement by the society's founder, Robert W. Welch, advocating a "mean and dirty" technique against those suspected of communism.

On Page 96 of his Blue Book for the society, Welch wrote that he would print an article about a suspect in the society magazine with questions "which would be devastating in their implications. The question technique used in this way is mean and dirty. But the Communists we are after are meaner and dirtier..."

## Moral Methods Claimed

Manion insisted that the society's methods are guided by the principles that "the means must be moral, and that the end does NOT justify the means."

"One of the bases on which we oppose communism is its commitment to the proposition that the end does justify the means," he said.

Does he endorse the statement of Welch, that former President Dwight D. Eisenhower and others high in his administration were members of the Communist underground?

"I wouldn't at all subscribe to that," Manion answered. "I personally believe no one can tell



CLARENCE E. MANION

a Communist except another Communist."

Does he consider such a statement by the society president an example of "an immoral method?"

"It is a personal opinion, not an expression of the society," he said.

Would he, as a leader of the society, repudiate Welch for having made the statement?

## 'Hopeless Confusion'

"I am not the custodian of the secret thoughts of all who belong to the society," Manion said.

"Almost hopeless confusion," he continued, "has resulted from interpretation of personal views of members as organization policy."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# More Readers' Views on Birch Society

YOUR EDITORIAL, "Radical" is the Word for Birch Society Boss" again aids and abets our enemies, the Communists, who are pledged to destroy us, our government and our way of life.

It is a never-ending source of astonishment to me that everyone who dares to publicly and vigorously oppose communism, and to expose its purposes and accomplishments as well as its modus operandi, becomes the target for attack by a large segment of the American press.

At the same time, little attention is paid to the filthy termites (such as the two Russian spies just released) who are successfully furthering the cause of the international Communist conspiracy.

As an American citizen and member of the Committee of Endorsers of the John Birch Society, I protest your unfairness in condemning the society without a hearing and I insist that it is worthy of the support of all loyal Americans.

W. B. TAYLOR JR.  
Chicago

THIS LETTER is written in appreciation of your forthright stand in regard to the John Birch Society. Freedom has many enemies, and not all of them are to the left of center.

Chicago D. MANN

I AM NOT a member of the John Birch Society, but I have been following the many press attacks and individual efforts to destroy it.

If the press and individuals were to apply this same method against Communists and Communist-front organizations in this country, Khrushchev would cease to be as great a threat to the United States.

Isn't it strange that those who have set out to destroy the society will not raise their voices or hands against those who admit they are Communists?

MILDRED G. FAIR

Chicago

I TAKE this opportunity to applaud your editorial of April 1 on the John Birch Society.

The fact that respectable members of the community and reputable members of Congress become associated with extremely right wing organizations should be of concern to every citizen.

These extremist organizations

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use respectable people and members of Congress just to give them prestige so as to give justification to their wild, irresponsible charges.

JOSEPH A. PRACHAR  
Lombard

MR. WELCH'S charges were nothing new, and they meant little to me. What scares me is all these people rushing to assure us these men in government are not Communists. How do these people know? Who are they? How can they be so sure?

Chicago G. O. GERSON

IF THE John Birch Society does not contain the seeds of a mass fascist movement in this country, then what organization does? Or perhaps they should share some of the laurels with George Lincoln Rockwell and his American Nazi Party.

HOWARD VAN HOWE  
Chicago

FROM ALL available news of recent months, the John Birch Society seems to follow the pattern of pre-1930 Nazism

in Germany. It is frightening to find this type of intimidation and suspicion of one's neighbors right in this country.

Chicago I. BERLINER

CONGRATULATIONS on your excellent editorial regarding the John Birch Society. Conservatives and liberals alike should applaud your astute summation of the real character of this fanatic organization.

MR. & MRS.  
A. FRIEDMAN  
Morton Grove

MY HUSBAND and I would like to stand up and be counted as opponents of the methods used by the John Birch Society in its alleged fight against communism.

If the Communists themselves had devised the system employed by the society, they could not have achieved a more purposeful means of dividing and conquering the American people.

JOHN &  
JANE CHAPMAN  
Wilmette



**CUSHING LAUDS  
WELSH AS Foe  
OF COMMUNISM**

NORTH EASTON, Mass.  
AP—Cardinal Cushing has  
indorsed Robert Welch—  
founder and head of the  
John Birch society — as  
worthy of support as a  
dedicated foe of commu-  
nism.

"Anyone who is fight-  
ing communism today on a  
top level and who knows  
the methods and teaching  
of communism—that man  
is going to suffer," the Bos-  
ton prelate said in an ad-  
dress to business and pro-  
fessional men last night.

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# Atty. Gen. Kennedy Says U.S. Isn't Probing John Birch Society

From Sun-Times Wire Services

Several prominent men commented pro and con Thursday on the John Birch Society and its founder, Robert W. Welch.

Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy said, "I think they are ridiculous. I don't think anyone should pay any attention to them. I don't think they make any progress in the fight against communism; they are a hindrance."

The Justice Department, Kennedy added, has found no evidence the society has violated federal law, and therefore is not investigating it.

Richard Cardinal Cushing, archbishop of the Roman Catholic archdiocese of Boston, saying he had known Welch many years: Welch is a "capable and fearless" man who has made great sacrifices to fight communism. "Anyone who is fight-

ing communism today on a top level and who knows the methods and teaching of communism—that man is going to suffer."

Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) asserted that the best kind of investigation of the Birch society would be publication of the views of its founder. He elaborated: "When the American public sees the irresponsible and ridiculous statements the leader of this society has made about great patriots such as President Eisenhower, Chief Justice Warren and others, the organization will be properly regarded as a comic opera with tragic consequences."

Sen. Philip Hart (D-Mich.) said, "The glare of publicity will show what the society is. In its present composition it is not a threat."

Sen. Hart, asked whether he considers Birch society members to be subversive, replied: "Insofar as they are nuts who ought to be watched, yes. Insofar as they pose a serious threat to our survival, no."

American for Democratic Action stated that it "vigorously opposes any investigation of the affairs or beliefs" of the Birch society by the House Committee on Un-American Activities or the Senate Internal Security subcommittee.

Joseph L. Rauh, ADA vice chairman for civil rights and civil liberties, said: "No one has offered any evidence that the society constitutes a menace to the security of the republic." He added that any persons organized under the leadership "of a man who impugns the patriotism of Gen. Eisenhower and vilifies the Chief Justice of the United States are a clear and present danger chiefly to themselves."

Also, Rauh said, the investigating committees of Congress "come too close in their own views to the John Birch Society to conduct an impartial inquiry."

Meanwhile Gov. John R. Swainson of Michigan ordered the Michigan State Police Subversive Activities Squad to stop

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its public showings of the films "Operation Abolition" and "Communism on the Map." Both are staple offerings at many Birch meetings.

Swainson said: "The films are inaccurate and distorted and thus harm, rather than advance, the purpose of an intelligent anti-Communist program."

"If private, individual groups desire to sponsor the showing of these films, that is of course their prerogative. But I do not want any state agency to invade an area beyond the scope of its statutory duties and responsibilities."

The police unit had shown the film in four high schools

and to a number of private groups in Michigan.

# Readers Give Views On John Birch Society Series

During the past week, The Sun-Times has published a series of articles on the history, goals and methods of the John Birch Society. The series has produced a spate of letters from readers.

Of 116 letters received to date, 40 praised the society and its efforts in fighting communism while 80 expressed some doubts and fears about the Birch movement or sharply criticized its activities.

A majority of those who were doubtful of the society's aims and techniques warned, nevertheless, that communism is still an enemy and that objections to overzealousness in fighting it do not mean that communism should not be fought.

## A Public Service

Most of those who commented felt The Sun-Times had done a public service in presenting the facts for public discussion. Several writers felt, however, that such discussion might serve to throw into question the work of other groups engaged in anti-Communist efforts.

Some of the letters have been run in the Opinion of the People column on The Sun-Times editorial page. Since space requirements do not permit printing all of the letters, representative comments are contained in this article. (The Sun-Times does not publish anonymous letters, but permits correspondents to withhold their names if they wish.)

Mrs. Jocelyn Harrington of La Grange wrote:

"The preservation of democracy is not merely a matter of fear and hatred of communism, but in knowing, well enough, what democracy means (and) to defend against all forms of dictatorship and intolerance."

## Businessman John Jameson

said, "Though I am not a member, I imagine that the society must be stepping on some very Red toes, for which the American public should be grateful. Otherwise it would not be arousing so much violent opposition."

## ACTU Chairman

Dr. Tyler Thompson, chairman of the Illinois division of the American Civil Liberties Union, said, "You are doing a real service by helping to clarify the objectives of those on the right who are endangering our freedom in the name of—and perhaps with the sincere intention of—defending it."

Mrs. Elsie Klang of 205 N. Central wrote: "Perhaps when the founders of the John Birch Society planted their anti-Communist seed they didn't realize that the growth and momentum of that seed would gather to itself that element that would turn it bad and away from its original purpose."

From Howard Conant, of 736 Greenacres, Glenview, came this comment:

"It is well that the greatest possible publicity be given to the facts surrounding this organization. It would be terribly unfortunate if good, patriotic citizens in their extraordinary zeal to ferret out Communists embrace the very principles which are the embodiment of Communist doctrine."

The Rev. Howard E. Stanton, pastor of the Park United Pres-

byterian Church in Sreator, Ill., said: "Our family is reading with consternation your articles on the John Birch Society. Seemingly freedom is a delicate plant which lives only as alert seekers for truth are quick to warn the people of threats to their freedom. Your paper is ably performing that service here."

Mrs. Eva Cyprianis of 1631 S. 51st, Cicero, wrote, "Your editorials (sic.) on the John Birch Society have gone too far. When you start attacking all anti-Communist organizations, speakers and groups as using the same methods of combatting the Communist conspiracy, I question your motives and intentions."

Richard E. Kaleta of 2438 S. Princeton said: "I think by tearing down the John Birch Society you create an uneasy atmosphere about other good anti-Communist groups. I feel that in the future no group fighting communism will be free from suspicion if these attacks continue."

C. E. McVea of 822 Keith Waukegan, said The Sun-Times series "buttressed my belief that left-wing communism is only effectively combated by right-wing conservatism—not by middle-of-the-road vacillation. In attempting to discredit without

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serve the effects of this group on our community. . . . The neighbor who calls those who disagree with him a Communist harms himself and his children. . . . The alarming extent to which the problem has progressed here is evidenced by the fact that I must ask to have my name withheld, though I deplore the need to do so. Thank you for your series. It was greatly needed."

#### Priest's Views

The Rev. Robert A. Reicher, a Roman Catholic priest with the Adult Education Centers, wrote: "It is ironic that a professionally anti-Communist movement indicates an amazing ignorance of what communism really is. It is also unfortunate that the efforts of intelligent men must be diverted from an intelligent program to meet communism to this ultraradical-right movement."

Eugene Davis of 12821 S. Elizabeth said: "If one were to follow the premises (as detailed in the series on the local Birch society) then the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Knights of Columbus, Holy Name Society, Armed Forces Management Assn., and many other groups are nothing but tops of the John Birch Society, since they have conducted similar seminars. . . ."

A Glenview housewife said she has been "appalled to ob-

serve the effects of this group on our community. . . . The neighbor who calls those who disagree with him a Communist harms himself and his children. . . . The alarming extent to which the problem has progressed here is evidenced by the fact that I must ask to have my name withheld, though I deplore the need to do so. Thank you for your series. It was greatly needed."

#### Comment On Movie

Don Reilly of 5533 S. Damen, referring to the movie "Operation Abolition," said: "Since when is a movie 'controversial' that shows the Communists for what they are and how they used the American students as dupes?"

Charles Schramm of 5357 N. Winchester, a senior at St. Gregory High School, said, "If Mr. Robert W. Welch is against civil rights, and we must assume that he is since he has stated that 'civil rights' is a Communist slogan, then he is against the very foundation of our country—liberty."

George O. Gerson of 6976 S. Lowe wrote: "The charges Mr. Welch made (on Communists in government) were not new and those to whom they were sent failed to take them seriously. What scares me is all

the people rushing to assure us these men in government are not Communists. I wonder how all of these people know? . . . How can they be so sure?"

Edward L. Safford of Urbana, Ill., said, "I would like to suggest to the John Birch Society that it establish national headquarters in Salem, Mass. After all, where else is the setting so favorable to a witch hunt?"

Roman Gronkowski of 1218 Park, Melrose Park, said, "You . . . have attempted to discredit any and every anti-Communist group in the Chicago area."

Earl E. Bockenfeld of 2611 N. Kimball asked:

"Tut-tut, are you calling Dr. Schwarz and all other anti-Communists 'agents and/or dupes' of the John Birch conspiracy? Your case against Schwarz and Mills seems every bit as formidable and documented as Robert Welch's attacks on Eisenhower, Dulles, etc."

#### 'Befuddled Group'

"Does this poor befuddled group really rate the free publicity money could not buy?" asked Jack L. Carpenter of 131 S. Scoville in Oak Park.

Paul J. Johnson of 7111 S. Ridgeland advised, "If we adopt their (the Communists') premise that the end justifies the means

and combat them with secret societies, whispering campaigns and terrorism, are we any better than they? . . . It is not enough to be anti-Communist. We must be pro-freedom. . . ."

# VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

## THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Chicago, April 5—The John Birch society has several severe faults which make it a liability to a democratic society. Its founder has a low regard for democratic principles; it does not stand for the promotion of justice and freedom. It is to be composed of an elite of fanatical anti-Communists. Fanaticism leads to hysteria and dramatics. Its exclusive concern with internal communist influence will result in a tirade of name calling and heavy pressure on individuals who meet its displeasure. Anyone deviating from its views will be deemed tainted with communism.

I understand that this group intends to build itself into a hard core elite of a million members of extreme anti-Communists. For every extremist, 50 decent, everyday people can be found who will do a far better job of upholding our nation's principles. F. S.

Hinsdale, March 31—The John Birch society has attracted to its fold one of the most select groups of loyal Americans yet to be united in the battle against communism.

If the society's founder, Robert H. W. Welch Jr., promotes the idea that communism must be fought with some of communism's own tactics, he is not necessarily wrong.

Don't forget, for each high-principled man such as Welch, for every loyal American, there are many either befuddled thinkers or downright subversives.

The sooner a congressional investigation is made of the society, the better. Welch himself would welcome it, we are told. What more can you ask of a man?

Mrs. FORREST A. MANN

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# More Views Told By Readers About John Birch Society

Publication by The Sun-Times of a series of articles on the history, goals and methods of the John Birch Society drew considerable comment from readers.

To date, there have been 116 letters on the subject. Of that total, 36 praised the society and its efforts in fighting communism while 80 expressed doubts and fears about the Birch movement or sharply criticized its activities.

A majority of those who were doubtful of the society's techniques felt, nevertheless, that communism is still an enemy and that objections to particular ways it is combatted does not mean that communism should be ignored.

## Called Public Service

Most of those who commented on one side or the other felt that The Sun-Times had done a public service in presenting the facts for public discussion. Several writers felt, however, that such discussion might throw doubt upon the work of other groups engaged in anti-Communist efforts.

Some of the letters have al-

ready appeared in the Opinion of the People column on The Sun-Times editorial page. Because of space limitations, it is not possible to print them all. Representative comments from other letters appeared in an article in Friday's editions.

The Sun-Times does not publish anonymous letters, but permits correspondents to withhold their names if they wish. Here are some further typical comments:

"I wonder," wrote Mrs. Matthew Dewar of 320 Nordica, Glenview, "how many of my fellow citizens feel as I do? We have been so apathetic and concerned about things like spraying and cutting down trees with Dutch elm disease to save the outward beauty of our village, we have done nothing to destroy the evil menace of the Birch society which has taken root in our community."

John Partington of 2447 N. Linden said, "I work and have worked with about 300 persecuted Hungarians, Serbians and Lithuanians for the past 31 years. It is quite apparent that the Communist infiltration is

following the same pattern here as it did in their countries."

"These people know, and yet through the medium of the press, the columnists and editorials you ostracize an organization whose only crime is to fight insidious communism here at home."

## "Wonderful Publicity"

A Roman Catholic nun teaching in a Chicago parochial high school on the North Side, who asked that her name be withheld had this comment: "My opinion, if I might voice it, is that this whole exposure is a God-send—even if the society is called right-winger. Perhaps if we'd all clear 'secrecy' and join in downright patriotism and unity it would prove the best weapon against communism."

Donald Davis of 4114 Elm, East Chicago, was moved to write, "The Sun-Times should be commended on the wonderful publicity it is giving the John Birch Society, even though I'm sure the series meant to dis-

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Chicago, Illinois

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Part —  
Editor EMMETT DEDMON

CHICAGO OFFICE

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credit the organization. Thank God there is a slow but steady awakening of dedicated, intelligent Americans to the dangers of communism."

Another expression from Glenview, where the John Birch Society has been active, was this comment by Prof. Russell A. Fisher of the Northwestern University physics department, and his wife, Helen:

"We feel that only by bringing the activities of this society into the open and calling the attention of the public to their sinister significance as (you have) so ably done in these articles can we even begin to combat the effects and damage done by this organization."

#### Historian's Opinion

Prof. Edward T. Gargan of Loyola University's history department wrote: "Permit me to thank you for your excellent series (of articles). A free society is absolutely dependent upon a press such as yours which exercises its grave responsibility in the manner you have done."

"All who hope to preserve our society from the threat of a bitter and closed political community are gravely in your debt."

Edward Rekruciak, of 8314

S. Tripp, believes, however, that the series "hit a new low in objective reporting." He said:

"Why not have these experts warn the American people of each new Communist offensive so that it would be easier to distinguish the Communist line? This would help to unite the entire country in the necessary fight to destroy this Godless conspiracy. It is well to keep in mind 'while patriotic Americans are fighting each other, the united Communists are pushing forward.'"

#### Man In The 'Middle'

Wrote Marc Nissensen of 966 Princeton, Highland Park, "May I congratulate you and your team on the objective handling of the John Birch Society. I only hope that all readers will perceive the horrifying implications that lie beneath your calm phrasing. In any event, those of us in the 'middle' must be vigilant in our

struggle against subversion from any direction."

Earl E. Bockenfeld, of 261 N. Kimball, took another view. He wrote, "Your local follow-up is undoing the public service you did in publicizing the damaging activities of the John Birch Society. Gratitude for a fine job does not give license for sensationalism. Witch-hunting is bad no matter who ends up being called the witch."

Still another Glenview opinion came from Mrs. Olive M. Dornfeld, of 2027 Grove in the suburb, who wrote, "It concerns me deeply that in fighting communism a person can be so filled with hate as to abandon Christian principles and attack a neighbor. The Communist threat must be vigorously and intelligently opposed at all fronts. But this can best be accomplished by strengthening our democracy and not by adopting other tyrannies at home."



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## Editor Of New World Joins Birch Critics

The assistant editor of the New World, official newspaper of the Roman Catholic archdiocese of Chicago, Friday joined the critics of the John Birch Society.

Writing in the current edition, the Rev. William F. Graney termed it a "lucky break" that Robert Welch, society founder, chose to label former President Dwight D. Eisenhower a Communist.

"Of all the people in America Welch could have smeared," wrote Father Graney, "he chose the least likely. This was a fortunate mistake for Americans. If he had not made it, his organization easily could have proceeded without the merciless publicity now being shed on it." Now, added Father Graney, the "pastor of the John Birch Society is taking in print... deserved and fortunate... ought

to bring us to our sense. It ought to help us recall that a famous dictator of our era, one Adolf Hitler, also made quite a name for himself as an anti-Communist. He started in the same way, by forming a 'patriotic' secret society.

The "only reliable weapon in the ideological warfare thrust upon the world by communism," wrote Father Graney, is truth.

"The effective anti-Communist," he added, "then must be one who is interested in kindling the torch of truth, not in knocking it over as he pursues a reckless course of flinging unsubstantiated charges. Welch has shown himself to be a man who plays fast and loose with the truth and, therefore, not to be trusted as an anti-Communist."

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# Catholic Paper Calls Birch Group Unbalanced

BOSTON (UPI)—The Pilot, official organ of the Boston Roman Catholic archdiocese, said Friday that the John Birch Society movement "with all kinds of good intentions allowed, is unbalanced, excited and definitely out of focus."

On page one of the same issue, the Pilot printed a story on Richard Cardinal Cushing's speech Wednesday at North Boston. At that time the cardinal described Robert Welch, founder of the Birch society, as "a sincere and dedicated man."

But the cardinal said that "anyone who suggests former President Dwight D. Eisenhower promoted Communist causes is speaking in absurdities." He added that "we must deplore the exaggerations and excesses which discredit even a good thing."

In its lead editorial, titled "The Unbalanced View," the newspaper said:

"In a world as complex as ours, simplification can be a vice, and sincerity is no excuse for exaggeration. Nothing discredits a good cause quicker than supporting it by misrepresentation . . .

"In protecting ourselves against communism," the Pilot said, "we should be careful that we do not fall into evils almost as bad. It is possible to escape the dogs only to perish in the swamp."

"Moreover, we must remember

that we cannot rewrite history; it is fatuous to speak of returning to the simplicity of earlier times or to suggest carrying out the responsibilities of present-day government with the machinery of the 18th Century. We live in a real world with real problems which we must meet realistically; there is no place for hysteria, exaggeration, accusation or misrepresentation in an authentic anti-Communist effort."

The Pilot said that, unfortunately, people of good will who wish to support a genuine anti-Communist movement in the United States have little to turn to. "And it is not to be wondered at if some of them are caught up by the promises of organizations like the Birch clubs."

"Clearly, we need a highly estimable group of American intellectuals who could be relied upon to speak and act with a balanced view on communism."

Referring to Welch, the editorial said:

"[His] excesses will have served us well, even if obliquely, if they remind us of our responsibilities in combating communism intelligently . . . Anticommunism should not be discredited by the misplaced enthusiasm of certain anti-Communists."

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## Senator Urges Congress Probe Birch Society

PRINCETON, N.J. (AP)—  
Sen. Jacob K. Javits (R-N.Y.)  
Saturday called for a congressional investigation of the militantly conservative John Birch Society.

In a speech prepared at the Princeton University symposium on world affairs, Javits said:

"The John Birch Society has now come along to remind us again that the principles of a free society can be eroded from the extreme right as well as the extreme left. Can we be complacent when men of position and influence seriously fight for the impeachment of (Chief) Justice Earl Warren? They understand the very foundations of the republic because they jeopardize the confidence of the people in their tried and proven leaders."

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Part I

Editor EMMETT DEDMON

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## Birch Society Chief Denies He Is a Nazi

Hollywood, April 6 (AP)—Robert Welch, founder and leader of the John Birch society, tonight denied he is a Nazi and proclaimed the organization's primary aim is "stopping the communist conspiracy."

Appearing on the local television program of Dr. James W. Fife Jr., a Congregational minister, the retired candy maker discussed the organization and joined his host in paying tribute to the late Sen. Joseph McCarthy.

After praising McCarthy, Dr. Fife turned to Welch and said, "They killed him off. I hope they don't get you."

### Help Form Society

"I was born a conservative," Welch said. "I got into the fight after World War II. I went to England to study socialism... I began to find communist conspiratorial hands under this socialism. The more I studied, the more I saw these hands."

"I gave up my job... and began publishing a magazine, American Opinion. I was forming my thoughts and the conception of the John Birch society came to my mind. I worked for several months on it and held a meeting in 1958, inviting 11 people. At the end of the day they agreed with me and we formed the John Birch society."

### Tells Aims of Society

Welch said the society's long term plan is to break down the "disease of collectivism and the flight in amo-

reality," and said the primary effort this year is to stop the communist conspiracy and "educate as many of our neighbors as possible as to what's happening and why it's happening."

Welch described the press as unethical for building up certain details of one of his private letters which was "never intended for anyone but friends."

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SUNDAY

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## How To Fight Communism

The arguments that have welled up in the debate about the John Birch Society are reminiscent of the arguments made during the heyday of the late Sen. Joseph McCarthy. Now, as then, they show an appalling misconception by a frightening number of well-intentioned Americans about communism—and about the American system of free speech and opinion as well.

When Sen. McCarthy was active, his supporters angrily answered criticism of his methods by saying: "McCarthy is fighting communism. Anyone who is against him helps the Communists."

The same theme runs through many of the letters we have received from readers in praise of the John Birch Society since The Sun-Times printed a series of articles on the history, goals and methods of the organization. (Up until noon Friday our letters count was 43 for the society, or critical of our articles, 92 against the society or in praise of the articles.)

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The Birch Society was founded as a secret organization by Robert Welch, a former candy manufacturer, who once labeled President Eisenhower and other eminent Americans as tools or agents of communism. Welch believes that social security and the federal income tax are Communist schemes to soften up America for Communist conquest.

Welch is entitled to hold these views and to preach them, if he wishes. He and his followers may, if they wish, hold the view that Chief Justice Earl Warren of the U.S. Supreme Court should be impeached because of the court's school segregation decision, which Welch believes was brought about by Communists to foment civil war.

By the same American right to free speech and opinion, other Americans are entitled to disagree with Welch and to consider him and his followers as crackpots, without being subject to abuse, gossip and

community ostracization. These are precisely the methods and weapons used by Communists to impress their views on communities; in Red China, for example, brainwashing and ostracization are employed to force acceptance of communism.

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Americans have a right to voice opinions critical of Welch and his associates without, in turn, being accused of being anti-anti-Communist, whatever that means.

Because The Sun-Times told the story of the Birch Society and its members, some of its sympathizers wrote in that we were discrediting other "good" anti-Communist organizations, such as the American Legion, The Knights of Columbus, etc. This is manifest nonsense. The Birch Society is discredited in the minds of its critics because it pursues the methods used by Communists themselves. Moreover, as Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy said last week, the Birch Society is making no contribution in the fight against communism and is, in fact, a hindrance in the fight.

And how, the Birchists argue, should the Communists be fought?

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A good answer for that question will be given in Chicago starting tomorrow when some of the nation's most important industrialists, educators, military and professional men meet here to conduct the Seventh Annual Military Industrial-Educational

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Conference of the Institute For American Strategy. They will discuss and exchange ideas on the most fundamental step in fighting communism: Teaching what communism is—and isn't—and what democracy is.

Americans can't fight communism if they don't know what it is or what democracy is. There is an ignorance on those subjects in the United States that is appalling. That ignorance is reflected in support for Welch.

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The conference to be held tomorrow at the Hotel Sherman will tackle the problem of dispelling ignorance by improving methods of teaching about communism and democracy at the high school level.

This is the same objective recently set forth by the American Bar Assn. Some of the co-operating agencies of the conference to be held in the Hotel Sherman are the American Legion, Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge, Loyola, De Paul and Notre Dame universities, the Chicago Assn. of Commerce and Industry, Armour Research Foundation and the armed forces.

When we say that this organization is taking an effective and important attitude toward fighting communism—as distinguished from an organization such as the Birch Society—we have in mind some of its basic tenets. Here in the words of Dean John H. Fischer, Teacher's College, Columbia University, a member of the institute's Educational Advisory Committee, are some appropriate observations:

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"There are Americans . . . whose attitude toward communism is under all circumstances to avoid it. . . . To follow such a ~~policy in~~ schools would make selective ignorance a goal of education. . . .

"A somewhat more aggressive approach, rooted in fear rather than hope, sees communism as a menace to the unwary and would counter the danger by teaching Americans to hate it. Those who espouse this line are unwilling to trust students ever to reach reliable value judgments through the objective study of facts and principles involved. These people prefer to teach for the specific purpose of inducing a predetermined negative emotional response. . . .

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"The unfortunate practice of using the word 'Communist' as a political epithet will not be eliminated unless it is recognized and attacked through education. One of the outcomes of our teaching should be the development of an awareness on the part of students that a person is not to be labeled a Communist merely because his views on racial segregation may be somewhat more liberal than his senator's, or because he sees merit in the TVA. The silly nonsense that calls an experimental school report card in a primary school a machination of the Kremlin should be exposed for what it is. In order to understand the actual threat of communism, Americans must learn to distinguish between the Leninist and the liberal, between what is Communistic and the non-conforming."

This is a primary lesson not only on communism but democracy. To be effective, this lesson must be learned and believed. Members of the Birch Society who do learn it, we expect, will change their procedures or resign and join up with an organization such as the Institute For American Strategy, which is helping, not hindering, the fight against communism.



CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, Sat. Apr. 7, 1961

# How Birch Society Seeks Influence In The Pentagon

By Thomas S. Ross  
Sun-Times Bureau

WASHINGTON—The John Birch Society is making a determined effort to extend its influence into the Pentagon.

A subtle pattern of infiltration—as yet apparently without effect—became evident in a week's investigation by the Sun-Times.

The society is concentrating on colonels in the Army and the Air Force, and on captains in the Navy—the men who do special research for generals and admirals.

Middle-rank officers such as these on the German general staff were a successful target of the Nazis just prior to Hitler's rise to power in the early 1930s.

## Key Officers Involved

The society's activities at the Pentagon first became known to defense officials late last year, when several key officers began to receive invitations to "discussion luncheons" and "seminars."

Names and service identities are being withheld to protect news sources and the officers who became involved unwittingly.

Those who sponsored the luncheons and seminars did not identify themselves as members of the John Birch Society, but they were later so identified by competent investigators.

Officers attending the sessions were probed for their political views, particularly as they related to national defense. Reading material was also distributed. One book was the "Pentagon Case," an inside-dopester novel of ultraright-wing sentiments, written under the pseudonym, Col. Victor J. Fox.

It deals in documentary style with a successful effort by the Communists to win Pentagon endorsement for subtly subversive war movies.

The Birch sessions had been in progress for several weeks before certain civilian defense officials were tipped off and the war was abruptly passed. But all officers involved were to cease and desist. They were reminded that active-duty officers are prohibited from lawfully taking part in political activities.

The impact, apparently of

the Birch Society members further underground, but there has been continuing, if less direct, evidence of their operations.

They have been active behind the scenes in promoting purchases by the armed services of "Operation Abolition," the controversial movie of the House Un-American Activities Committee. In this, their efforts have been abetted by other militantly anti-Communist groups.

## How Pentagon Got Film

The movie was first introduced into the Pentagon, it has now been learned, at the urging of Dr. Robert V. Peterson Jr., a California public school official and sometime consultant for the Richardson Foundation, an outspoken, tax-free foe of communism.

Peterson brought the film to the Pentagon last summer while attending a seminar for reserve officers. He turned it over to John Broger, the Defense Department's deputy director of information and education.

Broger admits to being overwhelmed by the movie, a carefully edited portrayal of a militant demonstration against the committee in San Francisco. The narrative lengthened the

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students were Communist-led and a foretaste of what might happen elsewhere if the committee were abolished.

"I never expected to see anything like it in America," said Broder, who promptly ordered the movie for the Pentagon's official film library.

#### Services Order Copies

During the fall, the Defense Department bought three more copies of the film, the Navy four, and the Army and Air Force 35 each. The services were receiving requests for showings from all over the Pentagon and from outlying military posts across the country.

Washington Video Productions, which compiled the film for the Un-American Activities Committee, was having difficulty keeping up with the orders. By now, it has received close to 1,000 at \$100 apiece.

More than half have been placed by defense contractors who, under law, must provide a program of education on security problems to their employees. The rest have been going to schools and "patriotic" organizations, largely as the result of interest stimulated at local military installations.

By the time the Kennedy administration took office on Jan. 20, counterpressure had developed against the Pentagon's intrusion into the controversy. And so, early in March, Deputy Defense Sec. Roswell Gilpatric issued a directive that all copies of the film were to be shelved and none was to be used in military training programs.

The Defense Department would conduct its own anti-Communist crusade, he said,

and its own portrayal of the threat of subversive demonstrations.

Yet, so great was the momentum of subtle and persistent pressure behind "Operation Abolition," that the obvious intent of Gilpatric's order, is still being transgressed at the Pentagon.

Only last week, close to a month after the directive came down, Washington Video Productions received another order for 30 copies of the movie from the Air Force.



# Birch Society Aims Defended By Welch

HOLLYWOOD (UPI)—Robert W. Welch, founder and leader of the ultraconservative John Birch Society, denied Sunday night that he is a Nazi and proclaimed the organization's primary aim is "stopping the Communist conspiracy."

Appearing on the local television program of Dr. James W. Fifield Jr., a minister of the First Congregational Church, the retired candy magnate discussed the organization and joined his host in paying tribute to the late Sen. Joseph McCarthy (R-Wis.).

Dr. Fifield introduced Welch by telling the audience that Welch's speech before the Freedom Club Tuesday night in the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles is sold out. After praising McCarthy, Dr. Fifield turned to Welch and said, "They killed him off. I hope they don't get you."

"I was born a conservative," Welch said. "I got into the fight after World War II. I went to England to study socialism . . . I began to find Communist conspiratorial hands under this socialism. The more I studied, the more I saw these hands."

"I gave up my job . . . and began by publishing a magazine, American Opinion. I was forming my thoughts and the conception of the John Birch Society came to my mind. I worked for several months on it and held a meeting in 1958, inviting 11 people. At the end of the day they agreed with me and we formed the John Birch Society."

Welch said the group's long-term plan is to break down the "disease of collectivism and the flight to amorality," and said the primary effort "this year" is to stop the Communist conspiracy and "educate as many of our neighbors as possible as to what's happening and why it's happening."

Welch also:

1 Said letter writing is only one of 10 major methods by which the society accomplishes its work.

2 Said he would welcome an investigation by a duly constituted federal authority and no member of the society would invoke the Fifth Amendment.

3 Defended the group's name-sake as a true hero.

4 Described the press as "unethical" for building up certain details of one of his private letters which was "never intended for anyone but friends."

5 Denied having complete control over the society's members. "All our beliefs are in our publications," he said.

6 Agreed with Dr. Fifield that the Communist conspiracy couldn't have made big gains in the United States without the "unknowing connivance" of high government officials.

"We hope and pray you'll be sustained in this fight," said Dr. Fifield in closing the interview. "I hope this hysteria about the John Birch Society will gain a million members for your society."

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# Congressmen Tell Views On Birch Society

In the last 10 days The Sun-Times has published two investigative series dealing with the John Birch Society, a national right-wing anti-Communist group.

The society has aroused widespread attention in the press, among civic groups and

in Congress where some demands for an investigation of it have been made.

In a three-part treatment of the society nationally, Sun-Times readers were told about the history, aims and personalities in the movement.

Another series delved into the society's operations in Chicago and the North Shore suburbs. It was prepared by a team of five reporters and has aroused a running discussion in



REP. ROMAN C. PUCINSKI



REP. EDWARD J. DERWINSKI



REP. ROLAND V. LIBONATI



REP. WILLIAM L. DAWSON



REP. BARRATT O'HARA



REP. EDWARD R. FINNEGAN

the Opinion of the People columns in this paper.

During the weekend the Chicago area's 13 representatives in Congress were asked to comment on the society. Here is what they had to say:

**REP. ROMAN C. PUCINSKI** (D) declared: "I read The Sun-Times series and thought it was very good. It points out that the John Birch Society's founder, Robert Welch, has made some very irresponsible statements. The series also points out that there are some very dedicated people in the society."

"The series points up a big problem in America today. Many people in America want to do something about the Communist challenge. They join because they may believe organizations like this provide a forum for sounding the alarm. It appears, over-all, that some of the members of the society's

executive board are very dedicated people who are sincere."

"It's unfortunate that a man like Welch could cause embarrassment to well-meaning people. It proves the statement of J. Edgar Hoover that fighting communism should be left to the professionals."

"During the last six weeks I

have received more than 100 letters of a similar form pattern calling for the impeachment of Chief Justice Warren. The letters were from my district. They come in waves. I gather that a spokesman for the John Birch Society addresses a well-meaning civic group and passes out

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the form letter, and admonishes the people to copy the letter.

"I have received both mimeographed and individually written letters, but they use the same language. They probably come from well-meaning people who have been given only one viewpoint.

"I've been talking to people in my district all week, but the question of the John Birch Society has never come up.

"The whole thing seems to point out that democratic, well-meaning Americans can find themselves supporting an organization with undemocratic principles.

"It emphasizes the need for an organization to fight communism in a democratic way. There will be action in Congress to find out where the money for the John Birch Society comes from and where it goes."

**REP. EDWARD J. DERWINKSI (R)** had this to say:

"My feeling is that when any issue develops such strong public feeling it isn't time to judge it dispassionately. The importance of the Birch Society has been blown up out of all proportion in relation to its size.

"If it had a very large membership, a thorough and immediate congressional investigation might be in order. In fact, Congress might profitably and appropriately study it anyway, but I think that study should come later in the year when the controversy dies down. There's a tendency for members of Congress to take extreme positions on controversial subjects and little would be accomplished right now in an investigation.

"My personal view of the society—based really on what I have read—is that it has commendable objectives. Mr. Welch has a tendency to put his foot in his mouth, which is unfortunate."

"But, as the society is on paper, I have no objections to it; it seems normally conservative. However, I do object to its leader making untenable pronouncements under the mantle of the group. He has, by his statements, nullified any effectiveness his group might develop. His misguided, extreme statements are uncalled for, and the controversy they have aroused has retarded the growth of the society, I am sure."

Derwinski said he had received "a few questions" about the society from constituents, "a few letters" at his Washington office, and "some inquiries in normal conversation." He added:

"The reaction from these scattered brief comments is sort of one of amazement that so much attention should be directed to the group. Many people expressed the opinion that an anti-Communist group seems to suffer more abuse than a Communist front group.

"I visit the high schools in my district at least once a year. In the last two days I went to Mother McAuley High School and I was asked by several pupils about the society. I told them, all I know is what I've read in the newspapers."

**REP. ROLAND V. LIBONATI (D)** declared:

"An organization that has for

its purpose a fascistic policy far to the right could be more dangerous in its influence on public thinking than an organization that is ultraliberal and far to the left.

"Ordinarily the ultraliberal is without funds, but the type of mind attracted to this other program is different. These people are affluent not only in money, but they are in powerful positions in society.

"The individuals who foster a fascistic philosophy invest the rights of government in the few. Our type of government, a unification of states with checks and bounds on federal government powers, would certainly suffer with that type of leadership."

Libonati said he had not noted any reaction to the Birch group among his constituents.

"But I have received letters, primarily from the West Coast and some Chicago suburbs, asking for the impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren.

"Otherwise I don't think any reaction has been stimulated among ordinary people, you know, my type. The program is now in the upper echelon of our society.

"I have received 50 to 75 letters and postal cards about the chief justice and it seems they might be part of an organized campaign. The wording on the postcards was mostly the same. Some were hand-written, some were typed, some were only one sentence long. But they were mostly from California."

**REP. WILLIAM L. DAWSON (D)** said:

"I've been following your account with interest. You started something.

"I haven't had any mail or conversation on the subject because I haven't been where men gather. I've been on the go too much."

**REP. HAROLD R. COLLIER**

(R) commented: "I have mixed emotions toward the society. I certainly feel that while the fundamental purpose of the society is commendable, I don't condone the tactics they have used in the charges that President Eisenhower and other people I consider dedicated Americans are Commie or tainted. I think a great deal can be done by groups who believe in anti-communism but who approach the problem in a way that is in the realm of reason, good judgment and common sense."

"I don't think the John Birch Society represents any more of a danger than any other group who in the process of pursuing a line of thought develop an obsession which sometimes destroys their basic sense of reason and good judgment."

"Certainly the John Birch Society is not so unique in this respect."

"I have had no comment."



from my constituents about this, except that I have received about a score of letters from folks apparently in favor of impeaching Chief Justice Warren. The letters probably stem from members of the John Birch Society or those exposed to its thinking.

"I haven't received word directly from constituents about the society, but it has come up in the course of social contacts, in the nature of light questioning. I have been asked what I think. The interest is reflected in the newspapers. The average intelligent newspaper reader, and I consider my constituents that, are naturally concerned and perhaps wonder just what this is all about. They ask if it is really a serious situation and what should or should not be done about the society."

In a later conversation, Collier said that the letters calling for impeachment of Warren also included other stands—against federal aid to education or the \$1.25 minimum wage for example—not just the impeachment of Warren.

**REP. SIDNEY R. YATES** (D) said:

"There is a great deal of congressional interest in the society. I know an effort will be made to look into its activities. Rep. Henry Reuss (D-Wis.) has asked for an investigation.

"Many of my constituents are bothered about the John Birch Society and have expressed widespread interest. I can't tell you any more than that until I've studied the matter further."

**REP. WILLIAM T. MURPHY** (D) said: "I haven't studied the thing at all. In Washington, I saw the articles in the paper where two congressmen each took opposite sides of the question.

"To me it seems like a very conservative organization. There have been charges back and forth. Questioning the President of the United States I feel is out of order. It's a very conservative, reactionary group.

"I've talked to about 200 people since I came home for the Easter vacation and I haven't heard anything from them about it. My daughter mentioned that several pupils at McAuley High School had asked Congressman Derwinski about it.

"Anticommunism is a very popular stand. It's a question of how you do it. They (the John Birch Society) are too far right just as the Communists are too far left. I don't care to go into detail on a matter I haven't studied."

**REP. EDWARD R. FINNEGAN** (D) commented:

"I don't know anybody who belongs to the thing. I doubt very much if the society will make any headway in our district up north (the 12th).

"I'm in a tremendously liberal district. They would be 100 per cent against anything like John Birch. Some of my constituents have mentioned it in casual conversation, about 15 or 20 since I got home for the Easter holidays. But I haven't got any letters.

"If they think this is another Fascist organization, they are definitely against it. Some of the conversations referred to the remarks of Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) that some congressmen would be surprised to find that some of their best friends are members. Some of my best friends couldn't be members.

"I read The Sun-Times series. I thought it was very good, very illuminating.

"I don't want to comment until I know more about them. If it's a Fascist organization I'm very definitely against them, and it seems to be that it is.

"I might have gotten 20 form letters from all over the country, not from Illinois, demanding the impeachment of Chief Justice Warren, almost all from west of Chicago.

"Maybe maybe Kennedy is right and it's a preposterous, silly organization. I didn't keep the letters. There were signatures but no addresses. They were about two paragraphs long, typewritten and the wording was almost identical. They stopped about a month ago. There was another outfit, from Tennessee I think, circulating a throwaway that was too wild to be taken seriously."

**REP. MARGUERITE STITT CHURCH** (R) said she has had only a few mail inquiries about the society and has heard little comment in her district, the 13th.

"I do not want to say anything definite about the society at this time, since I am just in the process of studying up on it," she commented.

**REP. BARRATT O'HARA** (D) said he has had no letters from constituents about the society, and he declined to comment about its activities.

"I don't want to say anything against any organization," O'Hara said. "One of the most precious rights we have is that to think and disagree without penalty.

"In the Communist world they don't have that right, you know. Of course, I deplore anything that questions the sincerity of other Americans, and I have read in the papers that some members of this group are doing just that."

**REP. DAN ROSTENKOWSKI** (D) said he has heard some "talk about the society in this constituency (8th District), but most of it was inquiry rather than pro or con comment."

indicating that the proper

agency for investigations of communism was the House Un-American Activities Committee. Rostenkowski said:

"That body is doing a fine job. But people do get excited by communism, and this Birch group, it seems to me, has become extreme.

"I do not know whether the Congress will want to investigate them. But if we do, they should have no objections. The Birchers are apparently becoming a little demagogic, but the government should have the right to look into their situation."

**REP. JOHN C. KLUCZYNSKI** (D) was not available for comment, but an aide in his Washington office said "the mail on the John Birch group has been very light indeed. We expected a great deal more public response, but it just has not come."

**REP. THOMAS J. O'BRIEN** (D) said: "I don't know anything about it. To comment about it would be unfair." He said he had been busy on other matters and had not been to his office to check his mail in 10 days.

The two Illinois senators, Paul H. Douglas (D) and Everett M. Dirksen (R), were not available for comment.



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The John Birch Society has broken no law and violated no moral principles. It vigorously condemns the use of bad means to achieve good ends. Our only "crime" is fighting Communism, and that we intend to keep on doing until our side wins. If you want to know the simple and whole truth about us, buy and read:

*The Life Of John Birch*  
One Dollar Postpaid

*The Blue Book Of  
The John Birch Society*  
Two Dollars Postpaid

Order from  
THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY  
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CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE  
THREE STAR  
SPORTS FINAL Edition

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Chicago, Illinois

Page 7 Col. 6

Part IV

Editor W. D. MAXWELL

CHICAGO OFFICE

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# List Top Council For Birch Society

These are the members of the John Birch Society council listed in a booklet dated Jan. 31, 1961. They are described in the booklet as the "top governing body under the founder."

DR. N. E. ADAMSON JR. of Boston, assistant medical director of the New England Mutual Life Insurance Co.

THOMAS J. ANDERSON of Nashville, Tenn., editor and publisher of Farm and Ranch, a farm paper. In a 1959 meeting urging formation of a third party, he recommended platform provisions calling for abolition of the personal income tax, a return to the gold standard, and relinquishing of the U.S. United Nations seat to Red China.

T. COLEMAN ANDREWS of Richmond, Va., former U.S. commissioner of internal revenue. He was a 1959 member of the Citizens Foreign Aid Committee which urged that all foreign aid be ended within three years.

SPRUILLE BRADEN of New York City, former assistant secretary of state, fired by former President Harry S. Truman, Ambassador to Cuba and other Latin American countries from 1939 to 1947. He was a supporter of T. Coleman Andrews for President on the Independent States Right Party.

LAURENCE E. BUNKER of Wellesley, Mass., retired Army colonel, former personal aide to Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

F. GANO CHANCE of Centralia, Mo., president of the F. G. Chance Co.

STILLWELL J. CONNER, of 6637 N. Sioux, Chicago, president of the Conroth Co., 2400 Greenleaf, Elk Grove Village.

RALPH E. DAVIS of Los Angeles, president of the General Plant Protection Corp.

DR. S. M. DRASKOVICH, Chicago, editor of The Serbian Struggle weekly newspaper published in Chicago.

THE REV. RICHARD GINDER, editor of The Priest and associate editor of Our Sunday Visitor, a Roman Catholic weekly, in Huntington, Ind.

WILLIAM J. GREDE of Milwaukee, president of Grede Foundries, a former president of the National Assn. of Manufacturers.

A. G. HEINSOHN JR. of Sevierville, Tenn., president of Cherokee Mills.

DR. GRANVILLE F. KNIGHT, Santa Barbara (Calif.) physician.

FRED C. KOCH of Wichita, Kan., president of the Rock Island Oil and Refining Co., described in the pamphlet as a strong supporter of right-to-work legislation.

ALFRED KOHLBERG, deceased, charter member of the council, called "the head of the China lobby" because of his campaigns in behalf of Chiang Kai-shek, Chinese Nationalist leader.

CLARENCE E. MANION of South Bend, Ind., former dean of Notre Dame University Law School and founder of the Manion Forum, a radio series.

FRANK E. MASLAND JR. of Carlisle, Pa., president of C. H. Masland & Sons, carpet manufacturers.

N. W. CYD McGOWIN of Chapman, Ala., president of the W. T. Smith Lumber Co.

W. B. McMILLAN of St. Louis, president of the Hussman Refrigerator Co.

REVILO P. OLIVER of Urbana, Ill., professor of classical languages and literature at the University of Illinois.

COLA G. PARKER of Menasha, Wis., former president of Kimberly-Clark Co., and a former president of the National Assn. of Manufacturers.

M. T. PHELPS, former chief justice of the Supreme Court of Arizona.

LOUIS RUTHENBURG of Evansville, Ind., former board chairman of Servel, Inc., former president of the Indiana State Chamber of Commerce.

J. NELSON SHEPHERD of Sioux Falls, S.D., president of Midwest-Beach Co.

JAMES SIMPSON JR., deceased, charter member of the council.

ROBERT W. STODDARD of Worcester, Mass., president of Wyman-Gordon Co.

CHARLES B. STONE III, retired Air Force lieutenant general who succeeded Gen. Claire Chennault as commander of 14th Air Force in China.

PAUL H. TALBERT of Beverly Hills, Calif., president of the Paul H. Talbert Co.

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## CHICAGO SUN TIMES

5 Star Final Turf Edition

Date 2-19-88

Chicago, Illinois

Page 6 Col. 1

Part 1

Editor EMMETT DEDMON

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He said he would consider Welch as a member to have no more authority than any other member in establishing society principles.

Many of the statements attributed to Welch are "rhetorical, generalities," he said.

"I would have to cogitate before I could say whether I could subscribe to them."

#### Authoritative Control

In his Blue Book of the society Welch writes that the society "will operate under completely authoritative control at all levels."

"In the fight immediately ahead," he writes, "we cannot stop for parliamentary procedures or a lot of arguments among ourselves."

Manion said he definitely wouldn't endorse statements such as Welch's labeling of "civil rights" as a Communist slogan and reference to President Kennedy (in 1958 when the President was a U.S. senator) as "amoral."

Nor would he agree, Manion said, to Welch's charge that the press, television and radio are dominated by Communist influences.

"That is a generality that doesn't distinguish between the editorial opinion and news departments of the press," he said.

#### Subscribes To Methods

"As a counselor of the society, I'm not particularly concerned with personal opinions held by members. I have subscribed to the objectives and

methods of the society, and they are completely patriotic—entirely moral."

Reville P. Oliver of Urbana, professor of classical languages and literature at the University of Illinois, is a member of the council.

The university said Wednesday he is on a year's leave of absence and the university staff is not handling his calls.

Reached earlier by United Press International, Oliver said he "anticipated an all-out smear campaign when the society became so effective and formidable."

He said he had "no means of knowing whether President Kennedy is a Communist or not." But he added that a "whole list of administration appointees endanger the security of the United States."

#### Proud Of Membership

"I am extremely proud to be a member of an organization which I regard as the most effective means of saving the United States from subversion," he said.

Another member of the na-

Turn to Page 22

Continued from Page 6

tional council is Dr. S. M. Draskovich, editor of the Serbian Struggle, a weekly newspaper published in Chicago at 448 W. Barry. A spokesman at the office said Wednesday that Draskovich is in Europe and will not return until the end of the month.

Stillwell J. Conner, 50, of 6637 N. Sioux, Chicago, the most active organizer for the society in the northern suburbs, also was asked about the book, "The Politician," which Welch wrote and circulated among members of the John Birch Society. Welch now says the book is not on the society list of publications. He describes it as a "personal confidential letter" sent to "a few friends."

However, at least three copies of the 80,000-word printed and plastic-bound "letter" circulated in Glenview in 1960 and escaped the control of the society.

#### Opinion On Book

Conner, when asked about the book, said it was written before the society was formed and was not written for publication.

"My personal opinion," he said, "is that the whole purpose of the book was to alert some individuals that Communists were hurting them."

Conner said he would like to see the "The Politician" published.

The Sun-Times has received much other comment on the activities of the John Birch Society in the Chicago area.

Stanley Pargellis, librarian of the Newberry Library, said it is important to make a sharp distinction between intelligent conservatives such as the late Sen. Robert A. Taft (R-Ohio), and the radical right. He cited a study of ultraconservatism

made by the University of Iowa. Afterward Pargellis wrote to the researchers on the project and told them he felt they did not make the distinction clear.

#### 'Still Subversion'

His view coincides with that of Otis Chandler, conservative publisher of the Los Angeles Times who concluded after a study of the John Birch Society in California:

"Subversion, whether of the left or the right, is still subversion."

He charged that Welch corrupts conservatism by teaching falsely about democracy.

On page 159 of his society Blue Book, Welch writes:

"A republican form of government or of organization has many attractions and advantages under certain favorable conditions. But under less happy circumstances, it lends itself too readily to infiltration, distortion and disruption. And democracy, of course, in government organization, as the Greeks and Romans both found out—is merely a deceptive phrase, a weapon of demagoguery and a perennial fraud."

Just what is wrong with this definition of democracy?

Francis W. Coker, professor of government at Yale University, is the author of a standard definition of democracy.

Coker wrote:

"The democrat believes that no other method is better than the democratic method for identifying and bringing to the top men of high political character, and that democracy, more nearly than any other form, confines these men to their functions of leadership and prevents them from becoming dictators."

"The democrat does not concede that the records show aristocracies and monarchies to be actually more competent than

democracies in providing a community with efficient administration and stable public order. He holds that no minorities are ever so superior in wisdom and self control that they do not constantly require the enlightenment and restraint which comes from the necessity of persuading the minds and wills, and maintaining the confidence and respect of the people whom they seek to lead."

In these two different views of the value of a republican form of government based on a democratic philosophy is the basic source of the conflict over the John Birch Society.



SAC, CHICAGO [redacted]

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SA [redacted]

Re memo of Investigative Clerk [redacted]  
dated 3/14/61 entitled "JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY; IS." u

On 3/23/61 SAS [redacted] and [redacted]  
[redacted] contacted [redacted] at her  
office located in Room 1175, 208 South La Salle  
Street, Chicago, Illinois. u

It is to be noted that [redacted] was  
contacted by the aforementioned Agents in response to  
her contact of this office as reflected in referenced  
memo wherein she desired to volunteer her services to the  
✓ FBI as an informant in the JOHN BIRCH Society. u

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On the occasion of this contact [redacted]  
advised that she was a widow with four children who  
due to the death of her husband several years ago  
returned to school and obtained her law degree from  
Loyola University. [redacted] advised that she  
now engages in the practice of law as an attorney and  
a member of the bar of the State of Illinois, and that  
her office is located in Room 1175, 208 South La Salle  
Street, Chicago, Illinois. She advised that she shares  
this office with her partner one [redacted] and has  
been at this location and engaged in this practice of  
law for a period of two years. u

In her conversation with the Agents, [redacted]  
[redacted] advised that she is a member of the Roman  
Catholic Church and that recently a friend of hers,  
one [redacted] invited her to attend a meeting  
of the JOHN BIRCH Society. [redacted] stated that  
she had read several articles in the paper recently  
which pertained to this JOHN BIRCH Society and that from

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[redacted] (C) 4  
what she had read she felt that it was an organization detrimental to the United States. Asked to explain her conclusions in this regard, [redacted] stated that she felt the JOHN BIRCH Society was making inroads into the Roman Catholic Church because she felt that most of the people she knew who were active in the JOHN BIRCH Society were of the Roman Catholic faith. She stated that she believed the JOHN BIRCH Society was made up of the "old Senator MC CARTHY crowd" and further that this group was using the organization of the JOHN BIRCH Society for the purpose of obtaining money from people who were of the anti-Communist leanings. She stated that it was her observation that the people active in the society were of the type who were ready to reach down into their pockets and come up with money to fight the Communists and that the old "MC CARTHYITE" group were merely using these people to realize some financial gain. (C) 4

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[redacted] stated that she really did not know anything about the society itself, but because of what she did know and because she had been invited to attend a meeting by her friend, she thought she could be of assistance to the FBI in investigating the JOHN BIRCH Society. She said she is of the "Democratic kind" and that from what she knew of the JOHN BIRCH Society, it was an organization of the extreme right and that it should be investigated. (C) 4

The Agents pointed out to [redacted] that as matters now stand, the FBI could not sponsor her membership in the JOHN BIRCH Society for the purpose of her obtaining information for the FBI. It was pointed out to her that at the moment the JOHN BIRCH Society is in violation of no laws relating to the internal security of the United States, but that if she of her own desires and interests decided to join the organization and in so doing learned of anything that she felt should be made known to the FBI, the FBI would receive her information. (C) 4

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[redacted] (S) 4

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[redacted] was also asked that if she would be interested in cooperating with the FBI in an area of subversive activities in which it did have specific interests. It was pointed out to [redacted] that the FBI did have an area of jurisdiction involving the internal security of the United States and that specifically this area of jurisdiction related to the CP and its fund organizations. In response to this inquiry [redacted] stated that she was not interested in undertaking that type of service for the FBI because for one thing she was extremely busy in her practice and further she had four children who made considerable demands on her time when she was not working and that for these reasons she would have to decline. She explained that the only reason she volunteered her services in the first place concerning the JOHN BIRCH Society were that she had received this invitation to join and that she felt she could have joined without too much trouble to herself or without a great expenditure of time. She noted, however, that inasmuch as there was not a distinct investigative interest by the FBI in the JOHN BIRCH Society, and inasmuch as the FBI could not sponsor her into the organization, she did not feel that she could afford to involve herself in the CP or left area of activities. [redacted] did note however that in the event she learned of any activities of the JOHN BIRCH Society in the future she would bring the check of these activities to the attention of the Chicago Office. & 4

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Inasmuch as the Bureau rules prohibit the sponsorship of individuals into a right led mass organization for informant purposes and inasmuch as [redacted] has stated that she did not desire to offer her services into a broader field of Communist activity, no further consideration is being given to [redacted] as a potential security informant and it is recommended that this case be placed in a closed status. (S) 4

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# Calls Birch Tactics Harmful

Conference Chief  
Scorns Extremists

BY RICHARD  
CHRISTIANSEN

A leader of a conference here on education and communism said Tuesday that tactics of the John Birch Society are doing "great harm" to the nation.

Daniel A. Sullivan referred to statements by Robert Welch, leader of the conservative society, that former President Eisenhower and other high government officials were agents of the Communist Party.

"WHEN ANYONE says the President is soft on Communism or goes along with the party line," Sullivan said, "he does a disservice not only to Mr. Eisenhower but to the country as a whole."

Fascist methods of fighting Communism are "unthinkable in a democracy," Sullivan added.

Members of anti-Communist groups who use extreme methods in their fight tend to be "a bunch of screwballs on the lunatic fringe," he said.

SULLIVAN is executive director of the Institute for American Strategy, 140 S. Dearborn, chief sponsor of the seventh annual National Military-Industrial Conference in the Sherman Hotel.

Two of the speakers at Tuesday's meetings were

Adm. Arleigh A. Burke, chief of naval operations, and Lt. Gen. George W. Mundy, commandant of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

Mundy told a morning session that high school and college students must be taught to distinguish between "idealism and liberalism" and communism.

He pointed to the recent controversy over "Operation Abolition," a film made of the student riots at hearings of the House Un-American Activities Committee in San Francisco.

CRITICS have charged that the film's view of the riots is distorted by editing the scene out of sequence.

"However," said Mundy, "have not heard anyone deny that (the films) . . . show the students rioting against law and order under the aegis of trained and known Communist leaders."

IN HIS LUNCHEON address, Burke said it is important "that our future citizens learn the meaning of principles, learn to accept responsibility for them, learn to safeguard them with courage."

The conference on "Education and Freedom in a World of Conflict" has attracted more than 1,000 educators interested in teaching students the facts and issues about Communism.

The meetings continue through Wednesday.

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RED STREAK Edition

Date APR 10 1954  
Chicago, Illinois

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file in  
John Birch Society  
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Marcella Braun views Communist propaganda posters displayed in the Sherman hotel.

# **Birch Society's Rep. Hiestand To Speak Here**

A congressman who is a member of the John Birch Society is due in Chicago to take part in a three-day "Convention of Conservatives."

Kent Courtney, New Orleans publisher of the Independent American, ultra-conservative newspaper sponsoring the convention, said one of the speakers would be Rep. Edgar W. Hiestand (R-Calif.), first congressman to acknowledge that he is a member of the society. He will speak Friday night.

Other John Birch leaders will talk at the meetings in the Morrison Hotel, Courtney said.

## **CHICAGO DAILY NEWS**

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Walter Winchell

## Birch to Tregoff — WW's Views

### PRESS CONFERENCE:

Any comment on the John Birch society which some newspapers indicted as Fascist?

I think Time's letter page a week ago answered it best. Air Force Maj. Malcolm Roshalt (ret.) wrote that air force officer John Birch hated humbug and that he would have spurned the use of his "great and good name" for such a cause as Robert Welch's. Maj. Roshalt reported that on the Birch headstone in China the Chinese wrote this epitaph: Sha sheng ch'eng jen, which means "He died for humanity" or "righteousness." Welch, concluded the major, "is doing dishonor to the name of my old friend, who fought for righteousness, but not righteousness without humanity."

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# Letters to Editor

## IN THE MAILBOX

### Society Birched

The John Birch society is rendering a great service to the nation by exposing certain responsible citizens as being affiliated with communism. More important, the society should be honored for denouncing democracy as a deceptive form of government.

Anyone who thinks the society is too extravagant should read Book 8 of Plato's Republic. In it democracy is unmasked and shown to be false and lecherous.

Thomas Jefferson said democracy was the best weapon early Americans could have used to free themselves from British rule. But he was skeptical about its outcome in years ahead. He thought it left too many avenues open for corruption.

Democracy is a system of rule where the rich saddle themselves on the poor; it is a government that creates a paradise for the well-to-do and hell for the unfortunate.

Democracy thrives on the false premise that

everybody is equal. It pays lip service to the democratic principle of "equal opportunities for all." Its existence depends on an endless stream of lies.

We should support the John Birch society, not only in its fight against communism but in denouncing democracy as a fraudulent system of governments.

ANTHONY LAVAZIO

I think the John Birch society is dead right in its criticism of our leadership. History of the last 20 years proves it. Our leaders have kept us complacent while communism has spread.

I would like to get clear answers from our officials to two questions:

1. Why during World War II didn't the United States let the Russians and Nazis annihilate each other?

2. Why in the early 1950s, when Stalin died and America had an atomic

bomb monopoly, was nothing done to bring communism under control?

ALF BRUNO

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## THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

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Editor LUKE P. CARROLL

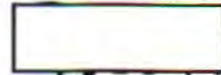
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## BRASS DISPLEASURE

# Press Has Stake In Walker Case

8.7 BY DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON — The American Society of Newspaper Editors meeting this weekend here may or may not yet realize it, but it has an unusual stake born of changed conditions in the case of Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker.

Gen. Walker has been relieved of his command in Germany, pending investigation of charges by the Overseas Weekly that he indoctrinated his troops with the views of the far-right John Birch Society.



MISS FLEESON

Overseas Weekly accused him also of calling former President Truman, Mrs. Roosevelt and Dean Acheson "definitely pink." It said he branded top names in press and television, all friends of President Kennedy, as confirmed Communists.

This is a good story and well timed for the press at home, which has been paying much attention to the Birchites. As such, it evokes two familiar problems.

One is a newspaper's right to criticize. The other is the effort to keep the armed services out of politics, domestic and foreign.

What is not generally known is that Overseas Weekly, a publication privately owned by Americans, has been denied accreditation for two years to Gen. Walker's old command because he and the brass there do not like its contents. An appeal to the Pentagon has gathered dust in the files.

THE KENNEDY administration has to decide Gen.

Walker's fate. It and the American press have to decide whether the same freedom of the press so jealously defended at home should be denied at the overseas bases now regarded as necessary to our defense.

The Walker types dislike Overseas Weekly because it criticizes them. They also allege piously that it prints pin-up pictures and is sensational.

For both reasons, the soldiers naturally like it very much, and it has managed to survive the displeasure of the brass.

President Kennedy is in direct and personal command of the Walker developments. Upon reading the Overseas Weekly disclosures, he asked Defense Secretary McNamara to investigate. Army Secretary Elvis J. Stahr and Chief of Staff Lyman Lemnitzer were already asking questions.

Assistant Defense Sec. Robert Sylvester, who is in charge of press relations, reached Gen. Walker and read to him the text of the accounts appearing here. That record, with Walker's replies, is before Walker's superiors.

BUT BEFORE they had time even to study it, the general

called a press conference at his German headquarters and denounced Overseas Weekly as "immoral, unscrupulous, corrupt and destructive." The newspaper calmly stood by its original report and said the general's



GEN. WALKER

... Birching his troops?

remarks were in his old groove of pinning labels on everything with which he disagrees.

Old associates of Gen. Walker are agreed that he is an emotional man. That he is not without guile, however, appears in reports from well-informed circles that he admitted to calling all his targets "pinks" to some degree except his former commander-in-chief, Mr. Truman.

This precaution is wise should the case become a court-martial matter. He is also said not to admire former President Eisenhower.

The general has had distinguished company in the White House woodshed. It is the extension of the freedom of the press principle to overseas bases, which get little attention at home, and are ruled autocratically by the services, that is the fresh and provocative element in the Walker picture.

*OLD  
Security  
John Birch*

## CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

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APR 22 1961

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Editor JOHN STANTON

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**U. S. Reassigns General  
in Birch Controversy**

HEIDELBERG, Germany, April 24 (AP)—The United States army announced today that Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker will be deputy chief of staff for operations at the army's European headquarters here, presumably while the army is investigating a report he propagandized the John Birch society among his troops. Walker, commander of the 24th infantry division, was transferred to Heidelberg last week after the army ordered the investigation.

**CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE**

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# Welch Denies Birch Society Is 'Secret'

<sup>43-4</sup>  
**Declares Number of Members,  
Names Only Data Kept Private**

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The founder of the controversial John Birch Society says it isn't a secret society—and has only two secrets:

"We don't tell how many members we have, and we'll not tell the names of our members."

\* \* \*  
**ROBERT WELCH**, of Belmont, Mass., gave this explanation when interviewed on a local television program Sunday night.

Welch appeared with Dr. James W. Fifield Jr., minister of the First Congregational Church of Los Angeles, on the latter's weekly program on a local TV channel.

The 61-year-old retired candy manufacturer arrived Saturday for southern California speaking engagements. He will speak Tuesday night in 6,000-seat Shrine Auditorium. All the seats are sold out.

\* \* \*  
**WELCH** said the John Birch Society, named for a missionary and Air Force intelligence officer who was killed by Chinese Communists, is "trying to prevent the breakdown of morality."

He said also it opposes "the disease of collectivism . . . We've got to stop the Communists first. Our primary objective is to edu-

cate our neighbors and fellow citizens to what is happening."

Fifield said he had heard that a purpose of the society is to get Chief Justice Earl Warren deposed.

"That's just one of our specific objectives," said Welch.

\* \* \*  
SOME congressmen have called for investigation of the organization. Atty Gen. Robert F. Kennedy said last week he thinks the society is "ridiculous; that its members 'make no contribution . . . to the fight against communism here in the United States, and in fact I think if anything they are a hindrance.'"

Dr. Fifield asked "whether the Communist conspiracy could have made progress without the unknowing connivance of people high in government."

"I don't think so," Welch replied. "Certainly there has been a considerable amount of connivance within our government."

The pastor told Welch: "I predict that the present hysteria about the John Birch Society will result in a million members for your society. God bless you."

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Mabley's Report

# Welch's 'Good Arm' Like a Pendulum

BY JACK MABLEY

J. B. MATTHEWS IS A good right arm, or left arm, of Robert Welch, the authoritarian boss of the John Birch society.

Matthews is associate editor of Welch's magazine, "American Opinion." In "The Blue Book," the guide of the Birch society, Welch writes affectionately of J. B. Matthews. He notes, on page 161, "... and of course I also have the benefit of J. B.'s files, almost incredible memory, and judgment built out of long experience, to lean on, whenever I wish."



JACK MABLEY

J. B. Matthew's career has been unusual, swinging from the far left to the far right. The one consistency in his position was his violent criticism of churches.

In his book "Partners in Plunder," written in 1935, the "partners" were the church and big business. The church was the enemy because it supported capitalism.

When he swung around politically, he continued to criticize the church, but now as a tool of communism. In 1953 he was discharged as an investigator for a Senate committee after he wrote in American Mercury:

"The largest single group supporting the communist apparatus in the United States is composed of Protestant clergy."

MATTHEWS CHANGED, BUT the church did not. In which of his political phases was he correct? If he was correct in either?

*CC match*  
*100 -*  
*John Birch*  
*Society.*

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Matthews denied that he ever joined the Communist party. In an autobiographical book, "Odyssey of a Fellow Traveler," published in 1938, he said he was in "numerous radical activities of a socialist and pacifist complexion" and "had a finger in almost everything radical."

• • •

**THE THREAT WHICH THE** Birch activities are posing to the entire American conservative movement, and the great influence of Matthews on Welch, make a detailed examination of Matthews' activities almost mandatory.

After graduating from Columbia university, he taught in several colleges, including Fisk and Howard universities. His beliefs were strongly Marxist-socialist in 1935, judging from the book "Partners in Plunder." Here are some quotations:

"It would seem as tho some malicious fate had immunized the spokesmen of a decadent civilization to any germ of understanding of the impending doom of their indefensible economic system."

He paid his respects to bankers with this: "In reflecting upon the abilities of America's banking rulers, it is pertinent to bear in mind that . . . apes show that they can be taught to earn and handle money."

• • •

**IN DEPLORING THE** rightist activity of the American Legion, Matthews wrote, "It must always be remembered in this connection that in the parlance of patriots, the word 'Communist' includes not only the real Communist, but every other type of dissident, however mild, as well."

Matthews later repudiated the book. "God forgive me for writing that," he said.

If the Birch society members could find it in their hearts to absolve former radicals of suspicion, they are in position to set an example in their own top leadership.

• • •

**THIS REPORTER STILL** regards most Birch society members, at least in this area, as decent, conscientious citizens ready, willing, and able to fight the communist threat.

-But they are being badly, tragically misled.

[Mabley is on WBBM nightly at 8].

# Church Press Role Hailed In Exposing Birch Society

## 125 Editors Hear Praises Of Attacks on 'Neo-Fascists'

BY DAVE MEADE

Daily News Religion Writer

The nation's church press was praised here Wednesday for denouncing the activities of such organizations as the John Birch Society.

"The best and most probing analyses of the John Birch Society are appearing in church magazines," said the Rev Alfred P Klausler, editor of the League Messenger, Chicago - publication of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

"They are not only denouncing the John Birch group but they are also offering a positive



REV. KLAUSLER

approach in meeting propaganda of the neo-fascists of the 1960s," he told the opening convention session of Associated Church Press.

The Rev Mr Klausler is general program chairman of the group's annual meeting being held through Friday in the Hamilton Hotel, 20 S Dearborn.

ABOUT 125 editors representing most of the major Protestant magazines and newspapers in the United States are attending the sessions. Total

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circulation represented in ACP approximately 17,000,000.

The controversial John Birch Society is an ultra-conservative, anti-Communist organization headed by retired businessman Robert Welch of Boston.

Its activities were also dwelt upon Wednesday by the ACP convention keynote speaker, the Rev. Dr. Howard Schomer, president of Chicago Theological Seminary.



The Rev. Dr. Schomer was critical of the Rev. Dr. James W. Fiffeld, pastor of the First Congregational Church of Los Angeles, who this week defended Welch on a television program.

"I cannot disagree more with my fellow Congregationalist, Dr. Fiffeld," he said.

The Rev. Dr. Schomer urged Christian journalists to protect the freedom of expression of such extremist organizations as the John Birch Society as

well as "the most, progressive movements" in this country.

"THERE ARE many signs that our generation will have a very fine opportunity to do battle for Christian values in the life of the city and of the nation," he said.

"It has become increasingly evident in the last few weeks that there exists at present in many American localities a rather delicate balance between genuinely progressive and utterly reactionary social forces.

"Christian ministers and laymen alike will need the help of our keenest writers as they seek to distinguish what movements are sincerely dedicated to the fullest measure of freedom, justice and equality for every single human being in this land and in every other."

THE REV. Mr. Klausler, in his orientation address, pointed out that this week's sessions have three broad areas of interest: communications, war and peace, and the working religious editor.

"The major problem facing the editor of the church paper today," he said, "is making the gospel relevant to the problems of contemporary society."

# Welch: U. S. Aid Program Helped Reds

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The head of the controversial John Birch society told 6,000 listeners that Americans have been led toward communism by the United States foreign aid program and other steps supposed to fight communism.

Robert Welch spoke last night to a packed Shrine auditorium meeting sponsored by the Freedom club of the First Congregational church.

Outside, 35 marchers picketed with placards which said "Welch, Would-be Dictator," "Squelch Welch," and "Democracy Must Be Practiced, Not Welched Upon." Some

were signed "Socialist Workers party."

Said Welch:

"For years we have been taken steadily down the road to communism by steps supposedly designed, and presented to the American people, as ways of fighting communism."

The John Birch society is a militantly conservative organization named after an American intelligence officer killed by Chinese Communists.

Welch said the United States foreign aid program was an excellent example of being led down the road to communism.

"The communist principle of reversal accounts for the extensive and high infiltration into our government of 'comsymps' like Alger Hiss and Harry Dexter White," Welch said. He added he is sure more than 98 per cent of all federal employees are patriotic Americans.

A "comsymp," he said, is "a man who is either a Communist or a sympathizer with communist purposes."

Welch received standing ovations at the start and finish of his speech.

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# Birch Aid in Drive to Weld Nation's Right Into 3d Party

A group of conservatives, including several leaders of the controversial John Birch society, today began a 3 day rally to unite the nation's right wing political groups.

Kent Courtney, chairman of the society's chapter in New Orleans and publisher of the Independent American Forum, a monthly newspaper, is sponsoring the conclave of about 125 persons. He said his aim is to establish a third political party to encourage stronger conservative repre-

sentation in government. He added:

"All we want to do is give the people a clear choice between conservatism and socialism."

Another speaker at the first day's sessions which began with a luncheon in the Morrison hotel was Bryton Barron, the society's coordinator in Virginia.

Barron, former chief of the historical section of the state department cited evidence of "Communist Influence in the

State Department." In his prepared address, Barron said:

"Men down the line, men unknown to the general public, men without any popular mandate whatsoever to do so, really make foreign policy in the state department."

He said minor officials in the state department were responsible for "the establishment of a communist regime in Cuba" and that there is "danger of another Munich in the Far East" in the possibility of diplomatic recognition of Communist China by the United States.

Barron also said that much of the responsibility for the chaos in Africa "rests with the state department."

In an interview, Courtney called for "open war on Castro and cutting off trade relations with Russia."

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# Forum Rallies to Organize a Third Party

BY MORT EDELSTEIN

If you wander into the Morrison hotel's lobby today you will think you are in the middle of a hardware convention.

The men and women wearing identification badges and talking enthusiastically in small groups are on business, but it has nothing to do with hardware.

They are conservatives from every walk of life and from many states, here to unite the nation's right wing political groups.

Their conversations, for the most part, indict the present administration, as well as the Eisenhower, Truman, and Roosevelt administrations.

## Publisher is Sponsor

The sponsor of the 3 day rally, billed as the Independent American Forum, is Kent Courtney, 43, of New Orleans, a publisher of a monthly newspaper and a leader of the controversial John Birch society.

"The New Frontier," asserts Courtney, a chunky, rusty haired, fast talking Birch group organizer, "is a front for socialism."

He says the purpose of the rally is to establish a third political party — "a strong conservative party."

"While here," Courtney says, "we will give our party name, and adopt a statement of principles."

'Blunders' Stressed — He says most of the rally

delegates and many of the speakers, including J. Bracken Lee, mayor of Salt Lake City and former governor of Utah, believe as he does — that, "our government blundered sadly" when it did not do these things:

Drop paratroopers and send the fleet to topple Fidel Castro's regime in Cuba; give military aid to Hungarian freedom fighters when they revolted; cut off trade with Russia and its satellites; repeal the income tax, and impeach Earl Warren, chief justice of the United States.

Courtney said speakers at the rally who are members of the Birch society also include Rep. Edgar W. Hiestand [R., Cal.], Dr. Medford Evans of Louisiana, former magazine editor, and Thomas Anderson of Nashville, a farm journal publisher.

Courtney said his group supports many of the precepts of the Birch society, an extreme right wing group, "but we do not feel, or ever have felt, that former President Eisenhower was a card-carrying Communist or a willing tool of the Communists."

Such charges have been attributed to Robert Welch, Birch society president.

## 'Glad to Run Myself'

Asked if he would back Welch for president in 1964, Courtney answered: "I would, but I think he would not want to run because of his age. He's 61."

Would Courtney run for President on the proposed new party ticket?

"If we can't get anyone better, I'd be glad to run myself," he answered.

Courtney also said he wouldn't back Sen. Barry Goldwater [R., Ariz.], favorite son of the conservatives, because "Goldwater tainted himself with socialism when he backed Richard Nixon for President in 1960."

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## Birch Society Leaders Propose 3d. Party Here

The convention of the Independent American Forum was opened yesterday in the Morrison hotel with 125 persons from 30 states attending. An attendance of 500 is expected before the convention closes Saturday.

Kent Courtney of New Orleans, publisher of the monthly Independent American Forum magazine and an organizer for the John Birch society, said he hopes the group will start a third political party.

Courtney advocated that United States armed forces invade Cuba, seize Russian advisers in that country, and hold them as hostages while negotiating for the return of American citizens and servicemen imprisoned in various communist nations.

### Criticize Justice Warren

First day speakers, many of whom are John Birch society officials, criticized Chief Justice Earl Warren of the United States. They said he should be impeached because of his consistent support of court decisions which have "given aid and comfort to the Communist party."

Courtney said there is no official connection between

the convention and the John Birch society, which has been criticized for its extreme right wing political principles. The society, Courtney added, considers that Sen. Barry Goldwater [R., Ariz.] is tainted with socialism.

### Reads Wire from Welch

At a press conference, Courtney read a telegram from Robert Welch, founder of the Birch society, expressing hopes for a successful convention.

Courtney said that the criticisms hurled at Welch are similar to the charges made against the late Sen. Joseph McCarthy in that they attack the man, his methods, and his extreme statements instead of recognizing his anti-communist stand.

Bryton Barron, a former state department employee who is a coordinator for the Birch society in Virginia, told a luncheon meeting that the society is the "Communists' No. 1 target because of its demonstrated effectiveness in combatting communism."

Also attending the conference is Rep. Edgar W. Hiestand [R., Cal.], first member of Congress to admit membership in the Birch society.

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## General Denies Birch Link 4-1

AUGSBURG, Germany (AP)—Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker denied today that his division information program is connected with the controversial John Birch society.

He declared statements attributed to him alleging prominent American political leaders are "pink" or communist are untrue.

The general, commander of the 24th infantry division here, issued his statement after a privately owned servicemen's newspaper, Overseas Weekly, claimed his division was exposed to "a propaganda barrage on the philosophy of the controversial John Birch society."

### Walker's Report

The newspaper said this campaign was run by "special warfare" programs set up by Walker. Asked to comment, Walker stated:

"The special warfare section of the headquarters staff of the 24th infantry division coordinates the pro-blue program, which is original and extensive in source material. The program is not associated or

affiliated with any organization or society. It is designed to develop the understanding of American military and civil heritage, responsibility toward that heritage, and the tactics and objectives of those enemies who would destroy it."

The John Birch society is a militantly conservative organization which has come under fire in the United States recently. Books and magazines sponsored by the society have been made available to troops in Walker's division and the division newspaper has reprinted material from publications of the society which is anti-communist.

### No Link to Army

The Overseas Weekly, which has no official government or army connection, also quoted Walker as telling an American PTA group in Augsburg last year that political leaders such as former President Truman, former Secretary of State Dean Acheson and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt are "definitely pink."

He also allegedly said 60 per cent of the United States press, radio, and television industries are communist.

Referring to these reports, Walker said:

"Statements in the Overseas Weekly of 16 April 1961 alleged to have been made by me on 24 Jan. 1960 are untrue."

When advised that this was not a denial that the general had made the statement, a division spokesman said he could not expand the general's comment.

The Overseas Weekly is published by International Media Co., Inc., a Delaware corporation. Its principal stockholder and executive editor of the paper is Marion Rospach, who was one of the original founders of the paper nearly 11 years ago.

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# Birch Boss <sup>12-6</sup> Evaluates Kennedy

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP)—Robert Welch, head of the right-wing John Birch Society, says President Kennedy appears "less a captive of Communist influences" than former President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

But the Birch Society leader added:

"Kennedy has done many things considered soft on communism in a political way, such as his speech as a U.S. senator in support of the Communist-controlled Algerian rebels. I was sorry to see anyone in our government take such a stand."

IN 1957, Mr. Kennedy made a Senate speech critical of French policies in Algeria and U.S. support of those policies.

He urged that the United States use its influence "in shaping a course toward political independence for Algeria," but with a "continuation of French influence."

Welch, appearing on a local TV panel show, said he is against conservatives forming a third party.

"We have no interest in a third party," he said. "I refused to go out to a meeting in Chicago because of the third party overtones to it."

He emphasized, however, that the third party advocates convening in Chicago includes many "good people with good purposes."

Welch refused to single out persons in government he considers Communist sympathizers.

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Jul

# General Denies Birch Influence

## Didn't Call Leading Yanks Pink, Army Officer Says

AUGSBURG, Germany (UPI)—The commanding general of the 24th Infantry division Friday denied that his troops are indoctrinated under a program based on the principles of the controversial John Birch society.

Maj. Gen. Edwin Walker also rejected as "untrue" reports that he had labeled former President Harry S. Truman, former Sec. of State Dean Acheson and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt "definitely pink."

The reports were published by the Overseas Weekly, an American-owned newspaper aimed at U.S. troops in Europe.

John Dornberg, the paper's editor, said he had sworn affidavits from witnesses who attended a Jan. 24 Parent-Teachers Assn. meeting in Augsburg at which Walker allegedly made the remarks.

The newspaper alleged that the general named as "confirmed Communists" columnist Walter Lippmann, Edward R. Murrow, former Columbia Broadcasting System and now director of the U.S. information Service, and Columbia Broadcasting System commentator Eric Sevareid.

THE OVERSEAS Weekly

also said that Walker's program of indoctrination was based on the "philosophy of the controversial John Birch Society."

Walker, in a written statement replied that the allegations against his indoctrination program and about his statements at the PTA meeting were "untrue."

"The program is not associated or affiliated with any organization or society," the general said.

"It is designed to develop the understanding of American military and civil heritage, responsibilities toward that heritage, and the topics and objectives of those enemies who would destroy us."

Walker and the Overseas Weekly have been feuding since the general banned one of the newspaper's reporters from 24th Division installations.

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## Birch Chief Blasts 7,000

### Ministers <sup>2-4</sup>

*Protestant Clerics  
Branded as Reds*

PHOENIX, Ariz. (UPI) — Robert Welch, founder and chief of the controversial John Birch Society, toured the Southwest Saturday with an attack against 7,000 Protestant ministers he claims are Communists or Communist sympathizers.

Making a one-day stop in Phoenix before flying to Albuquerque, N.M., and Amarillo, Tex., Saturday, Welch said before an overflow crowd estimated at 2,300 that 3 per cent of the Protestant clergy in the United States are Communists or sympathizers.

IN SANTA ANA, Calif., a Methodist minister filed a \$150,000 suit against Welch and 31 other members of the Birch group, charging that a member of the society called him a Communist.

The Rev. Arthur E. Harrington of a La Habra, Calif., Methodist Church, denied he had ever been a Communist or associated with Communist-type organizations.

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# Walker Suspended for Army Probe 3-3 of Pro-Birch Line



GEN. WALKER  
Relieved of his command.

WASHINGTON (AP)—The army announced today that Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker has been relieved of command of the 24th Infantry division in Germany pending an investigation of allegations that he gave his troops material about the right wing John Birch society.

The army said Secretary of the Army Elvis J. Stahr has ordered Walker transferred immediately to United States army in Europe headquarters at Heidelberg, Germany, "pending the outcome of an official investigation of certain public statements and actions of Gen. Walker."

## Birch Not Mentioned

Altho the statement did not mention the Birch society, officials acknowledged that this was the matter involved.

The investigation is now being made by Gen. Bruce Clarke, commander in chief of armed forces in Europe.

The controversy arose last week when Overseas Weekly, a privately owned servicemen's newspaper, charged that Walker used army facilities to disseminate to his troops what it called propaganda of the anti-communist John Birch society.

## Report Material to GIs

The paper reported that publications and material of the society were distributed among 24th division soldiers under programs set up by Walker.

Overseas Weekly also said the society's material had been reprinted in the division's weekly newspaper.

Walker has denied his division's information program is tied with any organization and said it is intended to inform soldiers of "enemies who would destroy us."

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## Minister Sues Birch Society For \$150,000

—SANTA ANA, Calif (AP)—  
A Methodist minister has filed a \$150,000 damage suit against the John Birch Society, contending he was falsely called a Communist at a society meeting.

The Rev. Arthur E. Harrington, pastor of the First Methodist Church of La Habra, sued in Superior Court Friday.

Named co-defendants with the militantly conservative-anti-communism group were its founder, Robert W. Welch, and Dr. James F. Garry, a Fullerton dentist.

The Rev. Mr. Harrington charged that at a "Fullerton cell" meeting of the society on Feb. 9, Garry referred to "Rev. Harrington of La Habra, who is a Communist."

The minister denied being a Communist and said the statement was false and exposed him to hatred, contempt and ridicule.

✓ Garry denied the statement and said the meeting was not of the Birch group but of the Christian School for Anti-communism. He said he is a member of the Birch society.

The John Birch Society is named after a U.S. intelligence officer killed by Chinese Communists 10 days after World War II ended.

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## Rightists Hit Kennedy Plans As Socialist

The leader of an extreme-right, third-party movement closed the group's three-day convention here Saturday by calling the Kennedy administration a "new frontier for socialism."

Kent Courtney, chairman of the Independent American Forum and a member of the ultra-conservative John Birch Society, said at the closing session at the Morrison Hotel that the Republican Party was a "pale, anemic carbon copy of the big-spending soft-on-communism Democrats."

Neither party merits the respect of the American voters, Courtney declared. He added:

"A new party is the only answer."

Courtney also criticized Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) Goldwater, he told 150 delegates of the forum, "tainted himself with socialism" by supporting former Vice President Richard M. Nixon for the presidency last fall.

Courtney praised the John Birch Society for having "hit at the jugular vein of Communist infiltration" when the society began to agitate for the impeachment of Earl Warren, chief justice of the United States.

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# VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

## THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Chicago, April 3—Many people are amazed that the John Birch society has a good number of members. Could it be that many Americans are joining this and other groups because they are tired of watching the Communists take over the world? 24-7

The John Birch society has been called "fascist." Isn't name calling one of the oldest communist tricks? Even if the society could be "tainted," there are many Americans desperate enough to do something to keep the whole world from being swamped by the Red tide.

Instead of the negative approach which attacks existing anti-communist organizations, can't Americans use the positive approach and create better anti-communist organizations?

DONALD REILLY

Lakeside, Mich., April 3—The formula of organization of the John Birch society under the able and courageous leadership of Robert Welch has resulted in fantastic growth and influence. This will continue as people begin to realize where we are being led.

K. T. CAMPBELL

Glenview, April 4—The recent publicity given to the John Birch society has been most enlightening.

Surely, there are few among us who want communism in the United States. It would be a terrible tragedy if we relinquished our precious freedoms for a tyranny no better than communism in the name of fighting communism.

HOWARD R. CONANT

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# URGES A THIRD PARTY TO STOP LIBERAL TREND

"Both the Democrat and Republican parties have been taken over by ultra-liberals" and a new, third party is necessary, Kent Courtney, New Orleans publisher, told the Independent American Forum yesterday in the Morrison hotel.

Courtney said he believed that neither party "warrants the respect or the support of any liberty lover and a new party is the only answer." He said the new party would be "dedicated to fiscal sanity and an end to appeasement of the Soviet Union" and would "restore this country to Constitutional government."

## Hits Socialist Planks

Courtney spoke at a luncheon of the three day convention sponsored by his political newspaper for the purpose of organizing support for a third party. One hundred and

few persons from 34 states have been attending the sessions.

The publisher accused both major parties of having socialist platforms. He said they are "vying with each other to carry out the platform of Norman Thomas and his Socialist party."

Earlier, Rep. August E. Johansen [R., Mich.], a member of the House un-American activities committee, charged that John B. Swainson, Democratic governor of Michigan, was inconsistent in action he took against the committee's film, "Operation Abolition," shown to members of the forum yesterday.

The film shows last year's San Francisco student riots protesting hearings by the un-American activities committee. The film charges the riots were inspired by Communists.

## Forbade Police Showings

On April 6, Johansen said, Swainson issued an order forbidding the Michigan state police from making further public showings of the film on the grounds it was a "distortion" of what happened at San Francisco.

Johansen said Swainson has

not prevented Michigan state police from using the film for its own training purposes "a curious qualification of his ban if the film, is indeed, a distortion of the facts."

Tom Anderson, publisher of Farm and Ranch magazine in Nashville, and J. Bracken Lee, mayor of Salt Lake City and former governor of Utah, addressed the forum's closing rally last night.

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# Amyet Leader Suggests Birch Probe

The American people have enough sense to laugh the John Birch Society "out of existence," Harold Russell, national commander of Amvets, declared here Saturday.

Russell, a handless veteran of World War II, suggested at the annual banquet of the Cook County Council of Amvets at the Midland Hotel that a congressional investigation of the ultra-rightist, semi-secret organization may be the best means of determining whether legislation is needed to protect the

nation against "organized odd-balls."

He warned against accepting at face value the claims of any organized group which insists it is banded together to fight communism, "for deeds count more than words and by their extravagances ye shall know them."

Russell said he believed that the John Birch Society may fall apart "under the weight of its own poisonous nonsense." But he wanted it remembered that both Hitler and Mussolini rode to power on the strength of secret societies that also were brushed off early in their development as unimportant.

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# Actor Hired To Ridicule Birch Society, U. Of C. Group Says

As if the John Birch Society didn't generate enough controversy, it was reported Saturday that a professional actor was hired to give it more lumps.

The office of the dean of

students of the University of Chicago is investigating a charge that an actor masqueraded as a society spokesman in an effort to make it look ridiculous.

This was the complaint of the University of Chicago Students for Civil Liberties in the wake of a debate held Friday in Ida Noyes Hall on the campus.

The UCSCL charged that the ringer was run in by Progressive Insight, a rival organization, in the student-sponsored debate on the role of anti-Communist groups in American life.

Progressive Insight originally announced the debate would be staged by Capt. Isaiah Hampton, commander of Glenview Naval Air Station, and William Mandel, a San Francisco radio commentator.

But Hampton informed the sponsors that official duties

would prevent his participation.

In his place the 300 persons who attended the debate were addressed by a man who identified himself as Richard Landau, a retired U.S. Army captain and a member of the John Birch Society.

He expressed his animosity toward communism before Mandel took the platform to launch an attack on the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Landau interrupted Mandel

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and stalked from the hall after voicing violent disagreement to Mandel's observations.

In a formal complaint to Perry Constas, director of student activities in the dean's office, the UCSCL asserted that:

1 "There is no such person as Capt. Richard Landau.

2 "The person representing himself as Capt. Landau was an actor hired by Progressive Insight from a Chicago booking agency for \$25.

3 "The actor's brief self-introduction and opening statement were prepared in advance by Progressive Insight.

4 "The actor planned from the beginning to walk out indignantly half way through Mandel's opening statement."

In conclusion, the UCSCL stated:

"We deplore the gross invasion of the rights of everyone concerned — the students who came to the debate, Mr. Mandel, the John Birch Society and other conservative anti-Communist organizations . . .

"A great disservice has been done both to the cause of civil liberties in the name of which the debate was held and to the conservative anti-Communist movement, whose 'representative' was made to appear ludicrous in the eyes of the audience.

"Should the John Birch Society, the anti-Communist League or any other such organization express a desire to have its position heard on campus, we will guarantee that they have the opportunity to do so."

Constas said he'd look into the matter.

# Birch Impersonation Stirs Campus Fuss

University of Chicago officials looked in vain Sunday for leaders of a student group charged with hiring an actor to impersonate a member of the John Birch Society at a public debate.

Perry A. Conostas, director of student activities, said officers of Progressive Insight, against whom the charges were made by the University of Chicago Students for Civil Liberties, had no comment.

## In Loud Tones

He said Progressive leaders were evidently out of town over the weekend, but "we'll see them when they return for classes on Monday." Conostas refused

to reveal the names of any persons involved.

According to the UCSCCL charge, Progressive leaders hired an actor to impersonate a member of the controversial right-wing group at a Friday afternoon debate on the House Un-American Activities Committee. The actor, they charged, disturbed a speaker with loud vocal objections and then stalked out of the room.

A UCSCCL spokesman charged that Progressive hired the actor from a booking agency for \$25.

The civil liberties group interpreted the situation as "a gross invasion of the rights of everyone concerned—the students

who came to the debate, the speaker, the John Birch Society and other conservative anti-Communist organizations. . . ."

The group offered to provide a platform for conservative groups desiring to make their views known to the students.

## 'Silly Business'

While the university officials refused comment Sunday, one professor long active in civic affairs was scornful of the incident.

"In view of the apparent uproar over this thing, and the touchiness of both faculty and students," he said, "I feel a little humorously sober, if unattributed insight should be given."

"I don't think many people at the debate were disturbed by this actor or thought him anything but a prankster. The civil liberties group, it seems, is falling into the mistake of thinking you can persecute people into being fair.

"And, of course," he concluded, "there is always the amusing possibility that the biggest hoax of all was done by those who managed to get the university involved in this silly business."

Conostas said the Progressive leaders would be given an opportunity to explain themselves Monday morning.

"It is my understanding," he said, "that the charges are true."

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# Shift U.S. General In Birch Dispute

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker, involved in a dispute over the John Birch Society, was relieved of his command in Germany Monday pending an investigation.

Army Sec. Elvis Stahr Jr. announced he had ordered Walker transferred from command of the 24th Infantry Division in Germany to U.S. Army European Headquarters at Heidelberg.

The transfer to that headquarters was made "pending the outcome of an official investigation of certain public statements and actions of Gen. Walker."

WALKER recently was accused by a privately owned service publication, Overseas

Weekly, of aiming a "propaganda barrage" at his men from the ultra-conservative anti-Communist Birch society.

The investigation is in charge of Gen. Bruce Clarke, U.S. Army commander in Europe, who was ordered by Stahr to relieve Walker.

Walker, 50, commanded the federal troops President Eisenhower sent to Little Rock, Ark. in 1957 to enforce integration at Central High School.

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# Russ Don't Need War, Says Welch

DALLAS (AP)—Robert Welch told a mink-and-ermine crowd of 1,200 Sunday night that Russia has no reason to start a war with the United States because this country could be taken "without a single shot" by Communist infiltration.

The founder of the controversial John Birch Society, speaking from a copyrighted text, renewed charges made earlier that the Communists have had a hand in every major U.S. decision since 1946.

HE TOLD an audience made up largely of residents from a fashionable North Dallas-Park Cities area, a conservative stronghold, that the Reds operate on "the principle of reversal," by using slogans that bring an opposite result and replace good with evil.

"By the 'liberation' of a country, such as Cuba, Communist mean the imposing on Cuba of a tyrannical Communist dictatorship," He said.

"The whole foreign aid program is an example. For years we have been taken steadily down the road to communism by steps supposedly designed and presented to the American people as ways of fighting communism."

WELCH asserted the Communists helped devise slogans that won a third term for the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt and prevented the nomination of the late Sen. Robert A. Taft at the 1952 Republican convention.

"Had Taft been nominated, he would have won by an overwhelming majority and he would have set communism back a whole generation," he told his applauding audience.

Welch also scored critics of the late Sen. Joseph McCarthy, saying "there was nothing wrong with McCarthy's methods from the viewpoint of American patriots."

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## Right Wing Group Urges 3d Party, 5-3 End to Income Tax

Abolition of the federal income tax has been called for by delegates to a meeting called here to form a right wing third party.

In a "declaration of principles," delegates to the conference in the Morrison hotel said:

"The power to tax is the power to destroy and a constitutionality limited government should not have the power to destroy the substance of law abiding citizens."

The declaration urged an amendment to the Constitution to repeal the graduated income tax.

### Other Planks

Also advocated were the forcible liberation of Cuba, withdrawal from the United Nations, suspension of nuclear

test bank talks at Geneva, and breaking of diplomatic relations with communist countries.

The conference was called by Kent Courtney, New Orleans political newspaper publisher and chairman of the Independent American Federation of State Parties.

In another statement yesterday, the group demanded a reappraisal of the "political and military doctrines" of the United States during the last 15 years.

### Cite 'Dire Peril'

These doctrines, the statement said, "have reduced the United States from a position of incomparable power to a condition of [in President Kennedy's words] 'dire peril.'"

Other measures proposed by the group include an end to foreign aid to nations "which refuse to support the United States in the struggle against Communism," abandonment of farm supports, and adoption of right to work laws.

Sen. Barry Goldwater [R., Ariz.], mentioned as a possible third party Presidential candidate, was rejected by Courtney, who said the senator is "tainted by socialism" because of his willingness to compromise.

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# The John Birch Society - Is It Anti-Negro?

## Earl Warren Target Of Controversial Unit

By LILLIAN S. CALHOUN  
(First Of A Series)

The virulently anti-communist John Birch Society and its founder, Robert H. Welch, Jr., a 61-year-old retired candy manufacturer, have not publicly taken a vigorous racist tack, but their impassioned efforts to impeach Chief Justice Earl Warren and to discredit a liberal Supreme Court speaks for itself.

An aura of mystery purposefully surrounds the Birch Society, and through a succession of "front" organizations and innumerable public material, the group entices the unwary anti-communist into signing up. If accepted into the Birch group, a new disciple is given the works in literature and films. Operating now in 35 states, with "an elite corps" in cells of 20 to 30 members, the society's goal is a million members.

Since gaining new prominence the past year, Welch has self-pedaled his earlier denunciations of ex-President Dwight D. Eisenhower and his brother, Milton. "The word for them is treason," he once wrote. Not only did he call the Eisenhowers communists — but threw in the late John Foster Dulles and CIA director Allen Dulles for good measure. 'RED CAUSE'

The Birch anti-Warren campaign has reached the point of impeachment petitions ostensibly on the basis of Warren's voting on the bench "36 times in favor of the Communist cause" in civil libertarian cases. However, it is interesting to note that the in-

dependent American published by ~~West~~ H. Courtney of New Orleans, recently reprinted an article from the Odessa, Tex., American, favoring Warren's impeachment and quoting at length from Dixie racist Sen. James O. Eastland's smear of Warren, Justices William O. Douglas, and Hugo Black, all of whom have upheld civil rights.

### HOLD MEET

Courtney's crew held a three-day meeting here last week at the Hotel Morrison billed as the American Forum, and Courtney admitted that a third of his speakers and many of the delegates were members of the John Birch Society.

Available among the reams of anti material: anti-income tax, urban renewal, free trade, un-

ions was a dignified brochure of the Birch group whose cover was composed of fulsome testimonials to the society and Welch from anonymous members. One letter photostated in full contains a glowing testimonial from Richard Cardinal Cushing, Archbishop of Boston, in which he wrote a Mr. C. M. Crawford, "... I do not know of any more dedicated anti-communist in the country than Robert Welch. I unhesitatingly recommend him to you and endorse his John Birch Society."

### HIT SOCIETY

Many liberal Catholic publications have, however, condemned the Birch group, Welch, and their authoritarian methods.

One article in the Birch brochure is a reprint of one by

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Columbia, S.C. writer W. D. Workman extolling the Birch Society and Welch. A newspaperman, Workman has recently published a book called "The Case for the South," and a leaflet advertising the book was also among the literature distributed by the American Forum group. The leaflet quotes at length in praise of the book from Sen. Strom Thurmond, James F. Byrnes and Sen. Richard Russell, none of whom is ardently pro-Negro.

The Birch group's position on race is like an iceberg, over 90 percent submerged. But like moles boring underground leaving a track, the interwoven nature of the group's racially biased supporters indicates its basically racist position.

#### HUGHES NAMED

A measure of Welch's feelings is also revealed by the people he detests. Thus he wrote in the May, 1958 American Mercury, "We find countless exhibits of the same brand (Marxist) of sulphurous hatred coming to the surface in contemporary America in the . . . obscene blasphemies of Langston Hughes."

He contemptuously absolved the following of Communist party membership, by writing in the same article, "Half-baked exhibitionists as prominent or as conspicuous as Eleanor Roosevelt, Henry Wallace or William O. Douglas would not be wanted as Party elite members. But many again for the communist side has been made by such players."



ROBERT WELCH



# TYCOONS' SWANK TOWN CENTER FOR BIRCH GROUP

By SAM KUSHNER

CHICAGO — Robert Welch, founder and self proclaimed foehrer of the John Birch Society, lives a many sided life, all of whose parts fall into one pro-fascist pattern. The cold war, racism, anti-labor activities, and just plain un-adulterated anti-Communism find their most devoted champion in him.

Such anti-labor spokesmen as William J. L. Grede of Milwaukee, a former head of the National Association of Manufacturers, who has an outstanding anti-labor record even for an NAM official, is typical of the men you can find on the appointed "top governing council" hand picked by Welch. *MM 1-1 4/2*

Professor Revilo P. Oliver of the University of Illinois, who speaks often and writes prolifically about his cold war views, is joined on this top body by Dr. Clarence Manion of South Bend, whose radio forum every Sunday pours out a conglomerate that runs along the lines of the John Birch Society views.

(For more about Welch's co-workers read Mike Newberry's article in this issue.)

But all of Welch's associates are not former deans of law schools or university professor, as his more affluent supporters would have the American people believe. They have tried hard to avoid being labeled part of the "lunatic fringe" of the right wing. But the public record and Welch's past activities are catching up with them.

Not only did Welch speak at a Chicago rally during the Republican convention which supported Goldwater For President, but he spoke under the auspices of a blatant racist group, which goes under the name of "State's Rights," under the auspices of a pro-segregationist group of state's righters known as the Independent American Forum.

Welch, who up to recently tried hard to keep in the background and who has been flushed out of his anonymity by the mounting pressures throughout the country, spoke in association with former Nazi supporters and anti-semites as well as racists at a "Congress of Freedom," in Columbus, O., last year.

Neither was he a featured speaker at the Goldwater rally.

He was apparently laying the groundwork for his growing but secret organization. Kent Courtney, head of the Forum, which claims representatives from 22 states and met in Chicago last week, says, "We're flattered that so many speeches at our forums have happened to be in the John Birch Society's field."

Quite a coincidence, especially in view of the fact that Courtney heads the John Birch organization in New Orleans. The Forum, which boasts it has distributed 70,000 "Impeach (Chief Justice of the Supreme Court) Earl Warren" pamphlets, not only has Welch speaking under its auspices but also Prof. Oliver. Last week Rep. Edgar W. Hies-

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tand, California Congressman who admits his membership in the Society, was scheduled to speak at the Forum Banquet, and Birch Society Council member Tom Anderson of Tennessee was also an announced speaker.

Sharing the platform with Welch at the "Congress of Freedom" in Columbus, was Mary D. Cain, editor of Summit Sun, a leading segregationist newspaper, and others of similar beliefs.

Kenneth Goff, who claims the title of "Reverend" and comes from Denver, was one of the "faculty members" at the Congress. Goff was long associated with Nazi bundists in the U.S. and is well known as an anti-semitite.

These are some of Welch's anti-Communist associates.

# Cites Birch Society Income Potential

WASHINGTON (AP)—Sen. Kenneth B. Keating (R-N.Y.) wants the Senate to decide whether the John Birch Society should be required to account for "a potential income of over \$18,000,000 per year."

Keating, a member of the Senate Internal Security subcommittee, said Sunday either that group or a specially created select Senate committee also should determine whether the militantly conservative society is resorting to "harassment, intimidation and economic blackmail" against its critics.

The Internal Security subcommittee is considering whether it has jurisdiction to investigate the society founded by Robert W. Welch, retired Belmont (Mass.) candy manufacturer. Welch himself has requested an investigation by the subcommittee.

## Cotton Disagrees

Sen. Norris Cotton (R-N.H.), another subcommittee member, disagreed with Keating. He said he didn't think the internal security unit had jurisdiction and saw no reason at this time for an investigation by any other congressional committee.

He told a reporter he doesn't believe the subcommittee should furnish "a publicity forum for those who desire to be investigated and wish to publicize their aims and purposes."

Keating, in a program recorded for television and radio stations in New York, said that all Americans must be alert to the "menace of communism" which the society is pledged to fight.

"The fact is, however," the



SEN. KENNETH B. KEATING

SEN. NORRIS COTTON

senator said, "that extremist organizations often do more harm than good in the fight against communism."

## Potential Income

Keating said the John Birch Society claims chapters in 35 states and has a goal of 1,000,000 members.

"Under its dues schedule," the senator added, "it has a potential income of over \$18,000,000 per year. Yet it is alleged that the society makes no accounting of its funds to its membership."

He said Congress should decide whether legislation is needed to require financial reports to the government, such as are now required from labor unions.

"There are also disturbing reports which indicate the society is resorting to various forms of intimidation against its critics," Keating said.

## 'Economic Blackmail'

He said he does not know whether such reports are true, but added: "If it should turn out that harassment, intimidation and economic blackmail are being used to interfere with individual freedom, then possibly legislation ought to be devised to protect the victims of such tactics."

Keating said the society's objective of influencing legislation is "perfectly proper. But, he said, that obligates Congress to determine whether the lobbying laws and the Corrupt Practices Act should be made applicable to the John Birch Society."

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By WILLIAM ALLAN

**DETROIT** — Grosse Pointe, one of America's swankiest suburban communities and the home of many of America's auto magnets, is a major center of the pro-fascist John Birch Society. Besides having a number of chapters in this affluent community, the John Birch Society doubtless finds this area a source of considerable financial support.

Last week, Mrs. Judith Kent Towel of 1035 Yorkshire revealed to newspaper reporters that she is a member of the semi-secret society and that her community boasts of several chapters. Admitting that the organization has regular meetings in private homes, Mrs. Towel refused to divulge the names or addresses of these meeting places. *MW 1-3 4-16*

Grosse Pointe is the home of the Ford family. Henry, Benson, William Clay and Mrs. Edsel Ford all have palatial homes in this community. So does Joseph Dodge, one time financial advisor to President Eisenhower.

Two years ago Robert Welch, founder and leader of the Birch Society, addressed one of Detroit's most important groups — the Economic Club. He was given an enthusiastic reception by the big businessmen.

An outstanding civil rights

spokesman here has commented that it was not surprising to find an affinity between Robert Welch and the patrons of the Economic Club. He said:

"It is not too difficult to understand why the fabulous beneficiaries of our creaking economic and industrial set-up would be only too willing to team up with Welch and his gang and give them lavish financial support. Promiscuous branding and labelling is right down their alley."

Public pressure against the John Birch Society are further reflected in this area by the statement of the local FBI office that the activities of the John Birch Society are being investigated. Simultaneous with U. S. Attorney general Robert F. Kennedy's characterization of the Birch group's activities as "ridic-

ulous and humorous", the local FBI said, "we have information about the Society but will not release it."

A lawyer, Orville Sherwood, of 743 Lakepointe, had previously revealed that there are 22 Michigan Chapters of the Birch Society. He was the former co-ordinator of the Birch society in this state, but was removed by Welch last June because he was not organizing enough chapters. Sherwood also headed the Grosse Pointe Property Owners association which, by using a point system kept Negroes and many whites from purchasing homes in the exclusive suburb. Such practices have since been outlawed in Michigan.

The local Birch organizations are reported to be making their reports directly to Welch.

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# LINK NAVY OFFICER, RACIST WITH JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

By WILLIAM ALLAN

DETROIT — The record of leaders of the John Birch Society in Michigan, which calls itself a "patriotic anti-Communist" outfit, reveals a fantastic interlinking with blatant racism and even pro-Nazis.

The leader of this society, until May, 1960, was Orville P. Sherwood, an attorney who is executive secretary of the Grosse Pointe Property Owners Association, made notorious for its attempt to screen prospective home buyers by a racist "point" system.

Sherwood has boasted that from September, 1959, to May, 1960, he organized 22 Birch chapters in Michigan. He was one of the society's paid organizers, but he was fired by Robert H. Welch, the society's present head. Welch is a former chairman of the National Association of Manufacturers.

The Grosse Pointe Association's point system was outlawed in Michigan, following a public hearing by the state's Corporation and Securities Commission.

The presence of Nazi hate literature in that association's records was testified to at a libel suit brought recently by William Buffalino, a Teamster union leader.

Buffalino's attorney, Lawrence Burns, introduced the Nazi pamphlets, such as "We Challenge the Jews" which showed the swastika and spelled out a program for "ridding" the U. S. of Jews and Negroes.

The American Nazi Party, headed by George Lincoln Rockwell, published the material. The pamphlets proposed to send Negroes "back to Africa" and carried a slogan, "The Jews are through in '72".

Sherwood denied to newsmen that he knew anything about the Nazi literature. He said it

wasn't part of the Grosse Pointe Property Owners Association, and was found in the woman's home who did the secretarial work for the association.

Sherwood admits that eighteen of the 22 chapters of the John Birch Society are in Detroit, two are in Midland and one in Flint, Michigan. There are about 15 persons in each chapter — housewives, attorneys, school teachers, businessmen. All are ultra-conservative.

They are awaiting a new coordinator.

THE WORKER	
Edition	
Date	APR 9 1961
Chicago, Illinois	
Page	1 Col. 1
Part	MIDWEST
Editor	
CHICAGO OFFICE	

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/14/80 BY SP1GSK/CA

100-36471-129

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
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JW (2)	

S2



By SAM KUSHNER

**CHICAGO**—How deeply involved are some military officers in pro-fascist organizations such as the John Birch Society?

At least one such official, U. S. Navy Captain Isaiah H. Hampton, Commander of the Glenview Naval Air Base, northwest of Chicago, is involved up to his neck, by his own admission, made at a recent meeting of "We, The People", at the Sheraton Towers Hotel.

This is what took place, according to a Worker reader who attended this session.

Those entering the Tropical Room on the fifth floor of the fancy North Michigan Av. Hotel were handed an astounding piece of "literature", which not only called for impeachment of Chief Justice Earl Warren but in unvarnished anti-semitic tones called for him to be sentenced to death!

#### WARREN "WANTED"

Page one of the folder displays a picture of Earl Warren underneath a big lettered "Wanted" caption. Underneath the photo it says "Earl Warren for **Impeachment** for giving aid and comfort to the **Communist Conspiracy**, the mortal enemy of the United States and the American people!" (Emphasis in the folder).

Lawyers who defended civil liberties cases are referred to in the tract by the anti-semitic term, "shysters."

The Cinema Educational Guild, Inc., P.O. Box 45205, Cole Branch, Hollywood, 46, California, is the originator of this filthy tract, which says in part:

"For their acts, Chief Justice Warren, and all the Justices who concurred on those 'decisions,' must be haled before Congress, and if found guilty they should not only be impeached, but should get the same kind of punishment that a Court Martial would mete out to a General who would betray his army on the field of battle—or that was **meted out to the Rosenbergs.**" (Emphasis as in original.)

The decisions referred to deal with desegregation of the schools, and several civil liberties cases. The Rosenbergs were executed after having been framed on so-called spy charges.

#### IN NAVY UNIFORM

Captain Hampton, appearing on the stage in his Navy uniform, told the meeting of "We, The People," which has the support of racists, anti-labor fanatics and former associates of the

Nazi Bund, that he was appearing on his "own time" and was wearing the uniform for effect.

He spoke at great length of his special project, "Education for American Security". He said that in some places it had difficulty in drawing crowds. In one city, he related, "We contacted the local John Birch Society, and they got out 2,000 people."

When the name of the nationally exposed John Birch Society was mentioned, many in the audience turned to their neighbors and smiled knowingly. Obviously many in the Sheraton Towers room were members of this semi-secret organization.

#### THE INSIDE STORY

Captain Hampton then told the "inside story" of the "Education for American Security" Conference held at his base last fall, and how he helped beat the attempts of the American Civil Liberties Union to bar this conference on government grounds. He and his wife, he said, raised the money for holding the conference. This contradicts the press statements he issued at the time disclaiming responsibility for this five-day session. At that time he protested he was just making the base "available" to the group as it is available to others.

"We have to act now before the next election," he declared. "In fact, if we don't squelch the Communists at the rate things are going there won't be a next election."

One might judge Hampton's definition of "communists" from the literature that was distributed at a table at the back of the hall. Petitions were circulated urging legislators to vote against open occupancy (which would give any person the right to live in any community without discrimination.)

A nine point program of the South Chicago Chamber of Commerce called on all to study the House Unamerican Committee lists as a guide to "Communist activities," and folders called for a 23rd amendment which would repeal the income tax and end all federal "welfare" provisions.

The one other featured speaker at the same meeting was William K. Lambie, former FBI official and now Chicago Research Man for the American Security Council. The ASC is a significant anti-labor blacklist agency.



Date

TO: CHIEF CLERK

Subject

Aliases

Address

Birth Date

Birthplace

Race

Sex

☐ Male

☐ Female

☐ Exact Spelling

☐ All References

☐ Main Subversive Case Files Only

☐ Subversive References Only

☐ Main Criminal Case Files Only

☐ Criminal References Only

☐ Main Subversive (If no Main, list all Subversive References)

☐ Main Criminal (If no Main, list all Criminal References)

☐ Restrict to Locality of

File & Serial Number

Remarks

File & Serial Number

Remarks

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56-1214

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8-1-88 BY 60322/UCB/RS

Requested by

Squad

Extension

File No.

Searched by

(date)

Consolidated by

(date)

Reviewed by

(date)

File Review Symbols

I - Identical

? - Not identifiable

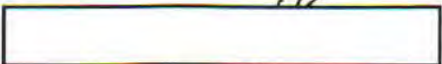
NI - Not identical

U - Unavailable reference



100-36671

536 South Clark Street  
Chicago 5, Illinois  
April 26, 1961

  
Chicago 6, Illinois

Dear 


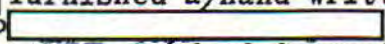
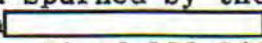
b7C

Reference is made to your letter of April 20, 1961  
and the enclosure submitted therewith.

Please be advised that the information contained  
in your letter has been made a matter of official record  
in this office. Your courtesy and interest in furnishing  
this information is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

  
James H. Gale  
Special Agent in Charge

 furnished a hand written letter, unsigned, and  
addressed to  This letter urges the recipient  
to fight for the spread of Communism inasmuch as he, recipient,  
as a member of the John Birch Society, has been "rejected,  
despised, vilified, and spurned by the people. . . ."  
This letter, along with  letter of transmittal  
is being retained in the 1A of 100-36671.

njb  
(2) 

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 2/14/80 BY SP1 GSK/CA

100-36671-12

## John Birch Group Hit by Bishop<sup>3-1</sup>

The controversial John Birch society has adopted the same principles it was organized to oppose, an Episcopal Bishop charged here.

The Rt. Rev. James A. Pike of California, in a speech in the Palmer House before the Chicago Executives club, said the society is one of many organizations in a rapidly growing movement which he described as the "radical right."

The ultra-conservative John Birch group was founded by Robert Welch, a retired candy company executive of Belmont, Mass., as a national organization to fight communism.

Bishop Pike said the society has been attacking persons with views to the left of their extreme position and labeling them as "commies," "pinks" and "communist dupes."

Bishop Pike said it is no longer enough simply to decry communism. A detailed and specific criticism of communism evils is needed, he said.

*See John  
Birch Society*

### THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

DIAMOND FINAL Edition

Date APR 29 1961

Chicago, Illinois

Page 3 Col. 1

Part —

Editor **LUKE P. CARROLL**

CHICAGO OFFICE

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DATE 2/14/80 BY SP1GSK/CA

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100 - 36671-131

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 29 1961	
FBI - CHICAGO	

*[Handwritten initials and signatures over the stamp]*



~~Confidential~~

DATE: 4-28-61

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Q. 4

(1 - A [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - 100-3297 ABE FEINGLASS)  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]  
(1 - [REDACTED]

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DECLASSIFIED BY 62022  
ON 3-4-4

CLASSIFIED AND  
EXTENDED BY SP1 GSK/CA 2/14/80  
REASON FOR EXTENSION  
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2 2  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
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~~Confidential~~





~~Confidential~~

April 10, 1961  
Chicago, Illinois

The Midwest Jewish Council presented their 18th Annual "Warsaw Ghetto Uprising" memorial meeting at the Palmer House, Grand Ballroom, on April 9, 1961, a Sunday evening.

The meeting was chaired by Rabbi S. BEN YAMPOL, in the absence of HERMAN BUSCH, who was hospitalized on account of a recent heart attack and was unable to attend. The major theme of the Rabbi's talk was "not to forget, not to forgive" of the crimes that the Nazis perpetrated on the Jewish people, there of course were six million exterminated, and with extra vigilance on the peoples of the world, these atrocities shall never happen again.

Rabbi YAMPOL then introduced the Ambassador from Poland. His theme was the Polish people gave aid to the Jews who were in the Ghetto and aided them, of course, this did not meet with the approval of a few hundred people in the audience and he was interrupted, in fact it seemed, along with his speech, he expounded the Communist line of talk, he spoke of the rearmament of West Germany, it's having the atomic bomb, country being armed to the hilt, with guns, planes, etc. 84

His fear was that Western Germany could set off another war, and that was not the purpose. His speech was very inflammatory, and several people left, and there were those in the audience, who felt that he should have never been invited.

The next part of the program was an original play of BEN ARONIN, who wrote "The Eichmann Accomplices", a very appropriate title.

Rabbi YAMPOL then introduced Senator WAYNE MORRIS, who had been delayed in St. Louis by the weather and just made it in time. He spoke also on being vigilant to the dangers of the dictatorships of the world and to clean our own house and practice what we preach, so the rest of the world will have an example to follow.

~~Confidential~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 6032 JEP/STP  
ON 3-4-84

~~Confidential~~

He is also a strong opponent of the Walter-McCarran Act and has tried to add several amendments to it, and some day he hopes that he will have some success. He said he visited the concentration camps and crematories, and knows first hand what the Jewish people had suffered, he also saw in the camps thousands of Catholics and Protestants who were imprisoned. He was received very warmly by the people, said that he would watch the EICHMANN trial with great interest.

Some of the people who were present are as follows:



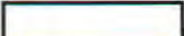
BESS and ABE FEINGLASS



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Recommendation

Index  and Senator WAYNE MORRIS.

- 2 -

~~Confidential~~



# REPORT NEGROES IN JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

SHREVEPORT, La. (ANP) — Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch society said here last week that his position in racial integration has been misunderstood and that his society not only has a number of Negro members, but two all-Negro chapters.

Welch, a retired Massachusetts manufacturer, addressed a rally and earlier in the day clarified his stand on the segregation issue.

"We are against forced integration, and I underline the word forced," he said.

"Integration is all right where the people want it; but as to the integration problem in the schools, it should be left up to the local people."

Welch said he was misquoted in Santa Barbara, Calif., on the segregation issue.

"They quoted me as saying I was opposed to 'forced segregation,' when I was opposed to 'forced integration.'"

The John Birch Society, he said, has two all-Negro chapters, one in the deep South and one in a border state.

In some Northern states, he said, chapters have members of both races.

*Search*

THE NEW CRUSADER

Weekly Edition

Date APR 29 1961

Chicago, Illinois

Page 3 Col. 1

Part —

Editor DAN BURLEY

CHICAGO OFFICE

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100 - 36671-133

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 3 - 1961	
FBI - CHICAGO	

*[Signature]*



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO : SAC (100-19431)

DATE: MAY 15 1961

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
ILLINOIS DISTRICT  
[STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY]

CLASSIFIED BY SP-10/10  
DECLASSIFY ON: 2025-1-1  
2025-3-4-29

ANY USE OF THIS INFORMATION IN A REPORT SHOULD BE CAREFULLY PARAPHRASED TO AFFORD PROTECTION TO THE INFORMANT, SINCE ONLY TWO INDIVIDUALS WERE PRESENT DURING THIS MEETING.

On April 10, 1961, [REDACTED] who has furnished reliable information in the past, orally furnished SA [REDACTED] with information concerning a meeting held between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on the afternoon of 4/3/61 in Chicago. This information was subsequently written up in narrative report form and returned to the informant for his approval and signature. The original is maintained in A [REDACTED]

- 1 - A) [REDACTED]
- 1 - [REDACTED]
- 1 - [REDACTED]
- 1 - [REDACTED]
- 1 - [REDACTED]
- 1 - [REDACTED]
- 1 - [REDACTED]
- 1 - [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-18393 (Cominfil RR Industry)
- 1 - 100-9178 (Cominfil HREBIU)
- 1 - 100-18953 (CP, USA, Ill. District - Organization)
- 1 - 100-18956 (CP, USA, Ill. District - Negro Question)
- 1 - 100-18962 (CP, USA, Ill. District - Security Measures)
- 1 - 100-36671 (John Birch Society)
- 1 - 100-38122 (Debs Club)
- 1 - 100-18573 (Cominfil Railway Clerks)
- 1 - 100-18571 (Cominfil Railroad Carmen)

EHW:jem  
(18)

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY SP-10/10 2/14/80  
REASON FOR EXTENSION  
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 3/5/81

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

100-36671-134

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI	

Confidential



~~Confidential~~

Chicago, Illinois  
April 10, 1961

It was learned that on April 3, 1961, at about 12:15 p.m., [ ] picked up [ ] at the corner of Dearborn and Washington, whereupon they then proceeded to Grant Park for a meeting of about 45" duration.

It was learned that during this conversation, [ ] told [ ] that [ ] was going out of town to visit her daughter who had just recently had a baby.

It was further learned that [ ] told [ ] that he was busy working on the fascist organization, the John Birch Society, and that this project, which he was currently undertaking was rather important. He said that it was necessary for him to follow thru on some leads that afternoon and that he must further handle this as soon as possible because we are approaching a stage where we will be faced with a strong ideological struggle between the fascist and the socialist and progressive Left.

It was further learned that both [ ] and [ ] agreed that the Executive Industrial Committee meeting scheduled to be held that evening be postponed.

[ ] was overheard telling [ ] that in regard to the meeting later this afternoon (Railroad Club Committee meeting), we will have to find ways and means for the Railroad Club to extend its influence in the industry, especially among the Railroad Clerks. SAM recommended that a task force be set up to include the following:

1) That [ ] and [ ] form a committee, including a Negro to concentrate on the Railroad Clerks.

2) That a committee of 5 be appointed to concentrate on the Dining Car Workers.

3) That a committee be appointed to work with the Railroad Carmen.

-1-

~~Confidential~~

CLASSIFIED BY [ ]  
3-4-4 [ ]

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~~Confidential~~

Regarding the above committees, [ ] stated that where ever possible, these committees should be integrated.

b7C

It was agreed that the main purpose of these committees is to build among these concentration unions, a "Left" group of at least 100 Railroad workers, and that in this way, we can increase out basic influence among Railroad Workers and thereby pinpoint our industrial work in this field. It was also agreed that we can also better utilize the forces which we have at present.

It was further learned that after this meeting at Grant Park, [ ] drove [ ] back to the vicinity of Party headquarters.

55

~~Confidential~~



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

MEMORANDUM

~~Confidential~~

TO : SAC, (100-38122)

DATE: 5-16-61

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: CP OF ILLINOIS

DEBS CLUB

IS - C

8-4-4  
CLASSIFIED BY [REDACTED]  
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X  
8-4-29

b7C

On 4/13/61, [REDACTED] who has furnished reliable information in the past, orally advised the writer of information concerning a meeting of the Debs Club Educational Committee held on April 12, 1961 in Chicago. Q4

This information was dictated into written report form on 4/17/61, transcribed 4/19/61 and authenticated by the informant on 4/25/61. Q4

ANY USE OF THIS INFORMATION IN A REPORT SHOULD BE CAREFULLY PARAPHRASED TO AFFORD PROTECTION TO THE INFORMANT IN VIEW OF THE LIMITED NUMBER OF PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE AT REPORTED MEETING. Q4

Informant's report is retained as A [REDACTED] and is as follows: Q4

b2

- 1 - A [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-18338 (CP OF ILLINOIS - EDUCATION)
- 1 - [REDACTED]
- 1 - [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-19431 (CP OF ILLINOIS - STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY)
- 1 - 100-36644 (COMINFIL - NALC)
- 1 - 100-34438 (CP ATTEMPTS TO INFILTRATE MASS ORGANIZATIONS)
- 1 - [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-38458 (COMINFIL - TRADE UNION CONFERENCE 4/14, 15/61)
- 1 - [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100- [REDACTED] (JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY)

RJS:hjz  
(13)

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EXTENDED BY SP1 GSK/CA 2/14/80  
REASON FOR EXTENSION  
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
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FBI - [REDACTED]	

100-36671-135



~~Confidential~~

April 13, 1961  
Chicago, Illinois

During the evening of April 12, 1961, the Communist Party of Illinois Debs Club Educational Committee met at the office of [redacted] on East 63rd Street in Chicago. Present at the meeting were [redacted] Chairman of the Committee, [redacted] and [redacted]

b7C

This committee decided to start the Debs Club educational program for both Party and non-Party people on April 19, 1961. They agreed that [redacted] would open the discussion at this gathering and that the topic would be monopoly capitalism. [redacted] will try to prove that monopoly capitalism is the cause of having six million people unemployed in the United States.

The purpose of these educationals is to try to reach individuals invited on various issues such as unemployment, a Fair Employment Practices Commission law, job training and civil rights. [redacted] suggested that these classes be kept simple and that issues be stressed that can be understood by those attending, such as the idea of a 30 hour work week.

Everyone in the Debs Club is to try to bring as many people as possible to these classes with the idea that those attending who are not too progressive will be funneled into the NALC while efforts will be made with the more progressive to direct them towards the Party.

The committee discussed whether or not [redacted] should attend these classes. [redacted] expressed fear that his attendance would arouse the suspicion of those invited since he is well known as a Communist. It was agreed that [redacted] and [redacted] would decide if [redacted] should attend these classes.

b7C

This committee decided that [redacted] should follow [redacted] as a speaker at the coming class and his comments should be along the same lines as those of [redacted]

- 1 -

~~Confidential~~

DECLASSIFIED BY [redacted]  
ON 3-4-4



~~Confidential~~

[ ] raised the issue as to what type of literature should be passed out at these classes and it was decided the literature should deal with the issue of a 30 hour work week.

During the course of this committee meeting [ ] mentioned that [ ] had been at the Modern Book Store on April 12, 1961, and had told [ ] to have as many as possible of the Debs Club membership attend a trade union conference to be held at the Morrison Hotel in Chicago on April 14 and 15, 1961. This group decided that the club should not attend this affair during the evening of April 14, 1961, since the club had scheduled an educational meeting for the club for that night. They further agreed that as many as possible of the club membership should attend this conference on Saturday, April 15, 1961.

b7C

It was also brought out at this meeting that [ ] was to have attended the Debs Club meeting on April 7, 1961, but that [ ] was busy that night checking out something dealing with the Birch Society.

~~Confidential~~

April 4, 1961

Chicago Sun-Times  
Chicago, Illinois

Gentlemen:

Is fighting Communism now "controversial?" Is an anti-Communist talk a "diatribe?" One must assume your "objective" reporters who investigated the John Birch Society think so. I am not a member of this group, and I do not know any members. However, your articles do not convince me the Society is unworthy of my whole-hearted support. They do buttress my belief that left wing Communism is only effectively combated by right wing conservatism - not by middle of the road vacillation.

In attempting to discredit, without proof, the John Birch Society and then link the growing legion of fighters against Communism with this group you are engaging in rotten journalism. Mills, Cocke and Fick are dedicated men - no one in this area is doing more necessary work. They do not deserve this despicable, sly impugning of their motives by a so-called responsible newspaper.

They keep in mind one fact, and it motivates everything they do, and say: International Communism is concentrated on the downfall of our society and our country. The Communists have a limited timetable for our take-over and, according to this timetable, we are to fall within the next twelve years.

If these facts were more truly grasped by such newspapers as yours you would not wring your hands over the plight of a Glenview hostess whose dinner party was ruined because two guests were familiar with the danger facing us.

Yours truly,

[Redacted Signature]

Waukegan, Ill.

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100-36671-136

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FBI - CHICAGO	

*[Handwritten signature]*



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC (100-0)

DATE: 5/13/61

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY  
INFO CONCERNING

b7C

[REDACTED] Americanism Chairman of the  
Amvets, advised as follows 4/27/61:

Under date of 4/4/61, he wrote a letter to the editor of the Chicago Sun-Times, commenting about the Sun-Times series on the John Birch Society (copy of letter attached). It was printed, along with his name and address.

Under Chicago postmark of 4/8/61 he received an unsigned, typewritten letter severely berating him, and in which the writer indicated that he believed Communism would come to the U. S. in the near future.

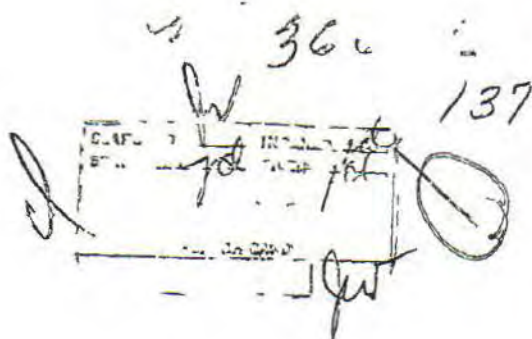
McVEA desired that this be made a matter of record for possible future reference. He has received no other communications.

OMG  
100-0

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
MEMORANDUM

~~Confidential~~

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-429429) DATE: 5/16/61  
FROM: SAC, ST. LOUIS (100-18410)  
TITLE: COMINFIL OF TRADE UNION CONFERENCE  
Chicago, Illinois  
April 14 and 15, 1961  
IS - C

Re Bureau teletype to St. Louis 4/13/61 U

Informant: [redacted] (reliable info in past)  
Activity: 4/14/61  
Received: 4/17, 18, 19, 24, 26; 5/1, 3/61, orally  
By: SA [redacted] personally  
Dictated: 5/3/61, memobelt  
Transcribed: 5/5/61, Steno [redacted]  
Authenticated: 5/10/61  
Location: [redacted]

b2

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3 - Bureau (100-429429) (RM)

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-6 JWS/SL  
ON 3-4-4

- 12 - Chicago (RM)  
1 - 100-38458  
1 - 100-30509 (COMINFIL AFSC)  
1 - 100-19431 (STRAT IN IND)  
1 - 100-DOMESTIC ADM. ISSUES  
1 - 100-INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - 100-JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

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EXTENDED BY 6076 LAM/AMG  
REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 5/16/81

- 1 - Detroit (RM)  
1 - 100-FNU ROSS, Auto Workers  
Union, St. Joseph, Mich.

- 2 - Philadelphia (RM)  
1 - 100-COMINFIL TRADE UNION CONF.,  
CG, 4/14 & 15/61  
1 - 100-COMINFIL AFSC

HRD:ra  
(27)

100-36671-138

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MAY 17 1961	
FBI - CHICAGO	

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SL 100-18410

COPIES (Continued):

~~Confidential~~

2 - New York (RM)  
1 - 100-COMINFIL TRADE UNION CONFERENCE,  
Chicago 4/14 & 15/61  
1 - 100- [redacted]  
7 - St. Louis  
1 - 100-18410 (COMINFIL T.U. CONF.,  
CG, 4/14 & 15/61)  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - 100-7756 (STRAT IN IND)  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - [redacted]  
1 - 100-7954 (DOM ADM ISSUES)  
1 - [redacted]

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~~Confidential~~

April 14, 1961

~~Confidential~~

A labor conference on peace, jobs and freedom, sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee, JAMES B. CAREY, PATRICK GORMAN, EMIL MAZEY, A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, FRANK ROSENBLUM and ARNOLD S. ZANDER, according to advance publicity, was held at the Morrison Hotel, 79 West Madison, Chicago, Illinois starting at approximately 7:00 p.m. on Friday, April 14, 1961. C u

Persons in attendance registered either as delegates from or members of trade union and other organizations with three girl registrars located in the lobby of the hotel prior to the meeting. REGISTRATION WAS \$3.45 PER PERSON. A-161

The actual meeting began at approximately 8:00 p.m. with the master of ceremonies, who introduced himself as JACK BOLLENS, Director, Peace Education Program, Chicago Regional Office, American Friends Service Committee, giving the welcoming address. He said that persons present were met primarily to discuss the question of peace. He said the question of peace had become a very serious one; it had to be as humanity could no longer afford a war. He said that we should no longer consider another war inevitable because the possibility of mankind surviving another war which would of necessity be a nuclear war, was so slim that the mere thought of such a

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possibility was out of the question. He said that we simply could not allow another war <sup>to happen</sup> and that the purpose of the conference was to impress the trade union movement with the urgent necessity for peace.

A Negro, HILTON HANA, was then introduced. He said he had been sent by PATRICK GORMAN, who could not be present, to read a letter from GORMAN. The letter stated GORMAN was sorry he was unable to attend the conference, but that he agreed with its purposes and wished it all success.

BOLLENS then introduced ERICH FROMM as a Psychiatrist from Columbia University who would be speaker for that session.

FROMM stated he was going to talk about the cold war. He then gave a brief historical background of the Soviet Union, stating that up to a certain time officials and representatives of that government worked unceasingly toward world revolution. Then it was decided that conditions in each individual non-socialist country differed greatly and that it would be better to allow each country to choose its own means, related to conditions in that country, to advance its system of government to the ultimate aim of Socialism. He stated at that time State Capitalism had started to develop in Russia and that State Capitalism is the form of government presently existing in Russia rather than Socialism as is believed by many people. He stated that American imperialism was in fact another form

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~~Confidential~~



of State Capitalism and that as a matter of practical fact  
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very little difference exists between the current American  
and Russian forms of government. He stated that both governments  
aspire to world domination.

He said that both nations were loaded with nuclear  
weapons. He stated that most people were unable to suppress  
a feeling of horror whenever they read or heard about human  
torture carried out in castle dungeons during medieval days,  
but that such tortures were not comparable to the pain, anguish  
and terror experienced by the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki  
when the American atomic bombs dropped. Such bombs were the  
equivalent of one thousand tons of TNT. Today's bombs are the  
equivalent of a million tons of TNT. One dropped over Chicago  
would kill every living thing within a radius of forty miles.

He said that a statistician named KAHN of Rand  
Corporation was engaged in preparing figures for the United  
States Government on the possibility of survival following a  
nuclear attack on this country. He estimated that, providing  
fifteen minutes warning was received prior to the dropping of  
bombs, the nation would escape a single attack with a loss of  
approximately five million lives. If the attack were to come  
as a complete surprise, between sixty and ninety million people  
would die as a result. FROMM said it was his own opinion that  
even if a fifteen minute warning were received, the vast

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majority of the American people would be trampled to death in the rush of the population trying to evacuate the big cities.

FROMM stated that this casual talk of sixty million to ninety million deaths simply had to stop, that the lives of that many people were involved, not just cold figures on a piece of paper. He said that an aroused intelligent people simply would not allow such a holocaust to occur and that our purpose should be the arousing of the people to an awareness of this very real danger and the fearful annihilation which will result if reason is not allowed to prevail.

Then came a question and answer period. A young man, who identified himself as a newspaperman, then asked FROMM what specifically could be done to prevent World War III. FROMM answered that that was why the conference was being held; to work out and put into action specific plans to prevent World War III. Then a man named ROSS, who said he was a member of the Auto Workers' Union at St. Joseph, Michigan, said he had noted FROMM had made quite a point in his speech concerning the Russian desire to ~~dominate~~ the world. He said that there was a clique in Russia which desired greater emphasis on attaining world domination through force and violence, but that KHRUSHCHEV was convinced that the peaceful coexistence road to eventual world Socialism should be followed. He said what he wanted

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~~Confidential~~

to know was what were the people going to be able to do about peace. He said that the Russian Government and the Russian people were in existence and were going to continue to exist regardless of our desires in the matter or our attempts to ignore their existence by wishful thinking and that the Russian people should be taken into consideration in reaching any decisions as to what should be done to prevent World War III. He said he wished the Russian astronaut could be present to address the conference. Then an unidentified lady stated that a meeting of the John Birch Society was going on on an upper floor of the hotel at that time and that she would like FROMM's opinion of that Society. FROMM stated that the John Birch Society was basically a reflection of fear; fear of returning to ROOSEVELT liberalism in government. He said it was made up of right wing extremists, fanatics and "do-gooders" who were trying to prevent the people from taking a reasonable attitude toward peace.

This ended the question and answer period. BOLLENS, as master of ceremonies, then dismissed the conference at approximately 9:15 to 9:20 p.m. and urged those present to return in time for the 9:30 a.m. session on the following day. It was estimated that approximately 200 people attended this opening session. Members of the Communist Party observed among those present were: SAM KUSHNER, FLO HALL, LUCIOUS

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ARMSTRONG, RAYMOND DENNIS, JAMES WILBURN, ORVIL LEACH  
and MERLON HINES. There was no indication that these  
people had been instructed to attempt to influence or  
dominate the meeting for, while they were observed engaged  
in conversations with various other persons from time to  
time, none of them attempted to speak from the floor or  
participate in the question and answer session. *dy*

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FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA COMMITTEE

The April 6, 1960 edition of the "New York Times", a daily New York City newspaper, carried a full page advertisement captioned "What Is Really Happening in Cuba?" The article maintained that the United States press has made certain charges against Cuba which are not true and the Fair Play for Cuba Committee was organized to tell the truth about Cuba in the interest of fair play. The advertisement closes with a note which states "This public appeal for fair play for Cuba has the support of a group of thinking individuals holding a variety of political persuasions, representing no one but themselves, linked here by a single common concern for the over-riding principle of justice, which is always an issue whenever partisan interests clash with simple truth."



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA COMMITTEE**  
**CHICAGO CHAPTER**

A source advised in October, 1960, that the Chicago Chapter of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee (FPCC) was formed during the summer of 1960 at Chicago, Illinois, under the direct guidance and leadership of RICHARD CRILEY, a member of the State Committee, Communist Party (CP) of Illinois. The Chicago Chapter, FPCC, maintains no headquarters at Chicago, but receives mail through Post Office Box 4555, Chicago 80, Illinois. Its meetings are held in public halls or homes of individual members.

A second source, in August, 1960, furnished a leaflet entitled, "What is Really Happening in Cuba?", distributed by the FPCC, Post Office Box 4555, Chicago 80, Illinois. The aims and purposes of the FPCC as set forth in this leaflet include the following: "To disseminate the truth, to combat untruth; to publish and distribute factual information which the United States mass media suppresses. In general, to contribute to foundations for peace, friendship and understanding between ourselves and the Cuban people." The leaflet reflects the FPCC plans to accomplish these aims: "By mailing of informational bulletins; organizing public meetings and forums; providing speakers, movies and slides for meetings of interested organizations; placing ads in newspapers; to visit Cuba and see for themselves what conditions really are."

The first source added that at a meeting of the Chicago Chapter, FPCC, held in Chicago on July 28, 1960, it was mentioned that the membership dues in the FPCC were \$5 per year and it was decided by those present at the meeting that payment of the \$5 dues would entitle one to dual membership in the national organization as well as the Chicago Chapter.

This same source advised that as of October, 1960, this Committee continued to exist, with the same aims and purposes and under the same direction.

The CP, USA has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order #10450.

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# OUR OPINION

## NEGRO JOHN BIRCHITES

As we all along suspected, the controversial John Birch Society, the ultra rightist semi-secret national organization formed by Robert Welch of Boston, has come up with Negro members. In denying his society is anti-Negro through its views on integration, civil rights and public school desegregation, Welch, a retired Massachusetts manufacturer, revealed that there are two all-Negro chapters in the society—one in a border state and the other in the Deep South. Said Welch:

4-1  
"We are against forced integration, and I underline the word forced. Integration is all right where the people want it," he said, "but as to the integration problem in the schools, it should be left up to the local people. They quoted me as saying I was opposed to 'forced segregation,' when I was opposed to 'forced integration.'"

The John Birch Society has been linked in intent and purpose with the Ku Klux Klan and the White Citizens Councils. In its extremities, it is said to rival the Aryan theories of Adolf Hitler and to echo the screams of the world's white supremacists, including those of Unreconstructed Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama as well as the Apartheid policies of the South African government. Its members, who number some of the nation's wealthiest men and women as well as the Average Joe and Susie Doaks (white, of course) belong to the so-called EXTREME RIGHT in their concern over the course the United States is taking in its foreign as well as domestic policies.

What the John Birch Society seeks to do above all, is to fight the so-called Communist Menace. Here it gets in trouble in attempting to remove the mote from its brother's eye while being blinded with motes in its own. To the Birchites every step toward elevating the status of the Common Man through government edict or policy is assailed as being Moscow-Inspired.

That Negroes should want their children to attend unsegregated public schools for which their taxes help support is preposterous to the shrill housewives and middle class suburbanites in its membership.

That Negroes should dare demand the right to spend their money in all public places and to enjoy such rights as non-Jim Crow trains, buses, toilets, hotels, restaurants, golf courses and tennis courts, the Birchites consider downright impudent and the result of Communist infiltration.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/14/80 BY SP1 GSK/cw

S-5

THE NEW CRUSADER	
Weekly	Edition
Date MAY 6 1961	
Chicago, Illinois	
Page 4	Col. 1
Part	
Editor DAN BURLEY	
CHICAGO OFFICE	

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However, there seems to be much merit in the fact that under the U. S. Constitution, everyone is supposed to have a right to his own thoughts, his right to free speech, free assembly and worship.

That the John Birch Society should be permitted to exist is a tribute to the American system. Similarly, this same system of democratic government permits the Ku Klux Klan and the White Citizens Council to exist the NAACP, the National Urban League, the Nation of Islam led by Elijah Muhammad and other organizations and groups to exist.

But the difference is that the NAACP and Muhammad are persecuted, reviled and derided in many sections of our country while there seems to be quite a lot of fear attending any idea of putting the same pressures on the Klan, the John Birch Society and the White Citizens Councils.

That Negroes should be among the Birchites is nothing to be scared of. It must be remembered that Negroes wept just as loud if not louder than the whites at the funeral of Memphis Boss Ed Crump, Cotton E. Smith, the unconstructed Negro-hating South Carolina senator and at the funeral for Senator Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi.

In fact, history recalls that a Negro organization in New York once had Senator Bilbo as its guest speaker at a Seventh Ave. Baptist church! Mistaken or not, there are thousands of Negroes who are ardent supporters, strange as it may seem, of such anti-Negro programs as state's rights, the poll tax, racial segregation and all other efforts to maintain the status quo between white and black.

That is why we do not call them misguided. For who can be called "guided" or on the right track in these days of national peril and indecision? Life has its own ways of working out problems quite different from the ways of the politicians, the preachers and the social workers. That Negroes should want to be members of the Ku Klux Klan should not disturb too much those who would rather stay with the NAACP. The same thing goes for those Negroes who consider themselves rock-ribbed Republicans and those who would rather ride the Democratic donkey. There may be merit on both sides of the fence.



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
MEMORANDUM

~~Confidential~~

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-429429) DATE: 5/16/61  
FROM: SAC, ST. LOUIS (100-18410)  
TITLE: COMINFIL TRADE UNION CONFERENCE  
Chicago, Illinois  
April 14 and 15, 1961  
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE.

Re Bureau teletype to St. Louis 4/13/61.

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Informant: [redacted] (reliable info in past)  
Activity: 4/15/61  
Received: 4/17, 18, 19, 24, 26; 5/1, 3/61, orally  
By: SA [redacted] personally  
Dictated: 5/3/61, memobelt  
Transcribed: 5/5/61, Steno [redacted]  
Authenticated: 5/10/61  
Location: [redacted]

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3 - Bureau (100-429429) (RM)

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EXTENDED BY 6036 WAH/amy  
REASON FOR EXTENSION  
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2 2/2/99  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR  
DECLASSIFICATION 5/16/81

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23 - Chicago (RM)

- 1 - 100-38458
- 1 - 100-30509 (COMINFIL AFSC)
- 1 - 100-19431 (STRAT IN IND)
- 1 - 100-DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATION ISSUES
- 1 - 100-INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
- 1 - 100-[redacted]
- 1 - 100-UNSUB, female former attorney for Packinghouse Workers
- 1 - 100-UNSUB, male, member Carpenters Union
- 1 - 100-POLITICAL ACTIVITY
- 1 - 100-PAMPHLETS & PUBLICATIONS
- 1 - 100-UNSUB, AFSC leader of discussion group #1
- 1 - 100-UNSUB, male, member Typographical Union
- 1 - 100-NEGRO QUESTION
- 1 - 100-JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
- 1 - 100-[redacted]
- 1 - 100-[redacted]
- 1 - 100-[redacted]
- 1 - 100-[redacted]
- 1 - 100-[redacted]
- 1 - 100-[redacted]
- 1 - 100-UNSUB, male, retired Garment worker and wife 1961
- 1 - 100-COMINFIL NALC
- 1 - 100-COMINFIL MASS ORG

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COPIES (continued):

~~Confidential~~

- 4 - Detroit (RM)  
1 - 100-COMINFIL TRADE UNION CONFERENCE, CG, 4/14 & 15/61  
1 - 100-EMIL MAZEY  
1 - 100-UNSUB, member Auto Workers Union  
1 - 100-UNSUB, member Auto Workers Union
- 5 - WFO (RM)  
1 - 100-COMINFIL T.U. CONFERENCE, CG, 4/14 & 15/61  
1 - 100-  
1 - 100-  
1 - 100-  
1 - 100-STRAT IN INDUSTRY
- 3 - SAN FRANCISCO (RM) b7C  
1 - 100-COMINFIL T.U. CONFERENCE, CG, 4/14 & 15/61  
1 - 100-FNU   
International Longshoremens Union  
1 - 100-STRAT IN IND.
- 4 5 - PHILADELPHIA (RM)  
1 - 100-COMINFIL T.U. CONFERENCE, CG, 4/14 & 15/61  
1 - 100-4899 (COMINFIL AFSC)  
1 - 100-UNSUB, female, member Textile Workers Union  
1 - 100-  
1 - 100-STRAT IN IND.
- 5 - New York (RM)  
1 - 100-COMINFIL T. U. CONFERENCE, CG, 4/14 & 15/61  
1 - 100-FRANK ROSENBLUM  
1 - 100-16785 (JAMES JACKSON  
1 - 100-STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY  
1 - 100-  
b7C
- 3 - CLEVELAND (RM)  
1 - 100-COMINFIL T.U. CONFERENCE  
1 - 100-  
1 - 100-STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY
- 4 - MILWAUKEE (RM)  
1 - 100-COMINFIL T.U. CONFERENCE, CG, 4/14 & 15/61  
1 - 100-UNSUB, male, Machinists Union  
1 - 100-UNSUB, female, wife of above  
1 - 100-STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY

SL 100-18410

COPIES (continued):

~~Confidential~~

- 9 - St. Louis
- 1 - 100-18410 (COMINFIL T.U. CONFERENCE, CG)
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - 100-7756 (STRATEGY IN INDUSTRY)
  - 1 - 100-17884 (COMINFIL NALC)
  - 1 - 100-7791 (NEGRO QUESTION)
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - 100-7367 (P&P)

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~~Confidential~~



April 15, 1961

~~Confidential~~

The April 15, 1961 session of a labor conference on peace, jobs and freedom held at the Morrison Hotel, 79 West Madison, Chicago, Illinois, was called to order at 9:30 a.m. on that date by JACK BOLLENS, Director, Peace Education Program, Chicago Regional Office, American Friends Service Committee. After welcoming those present, BOLLENS introduced WILLIAM C. DAVIDON as a noted nuclear physicist who would be the first speaker at that session. Q 4

DAVIDON gave figures and statistics concerning the destructive power of nuclear weapons and then stated that such weapons were not a deterrent to World War III. On the contrary, the mere existence of such weapons increases the probability of World War III because the slightest accident or mistake in the handling of such weapons could easily trigger a world wide holocaust. He stated that effective negotiated control, inspection and limitation of armaments was hardly probable because neither Russia nor the United States were truly sincere in their desires for control and limitation. He stated that as a practical matter control of armaments and their reduction would be quite simple. The efforts of thousands upon thousands of individuals are required to fabricate nuclear weapons. Power demands in the process

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~~Confidential~~



are tremendous. It would therefore be quite impossible to ~~Confidential~~  
fabricate a nuclear weapon surreptitiously without someone  
becoming aware of the tremendous concentration of manpower  
and equipment. He said it would be quite simple to effectively  
stop the production of a nuclear weapons plant by pulling the  
main power switch and putting a padlock on the plant gate.  
Any attempt at resumption of production would then become  
immediately apparent.

DAVIDON stated that there appeared little possibility  
of reaching negotiated arms limitations agreements because the  
diplomats of all the world's nations have been "over in Geneva  
all this time without accomplishing anything". He stated that  
there would be no progress in arms reduction limitation or  
inspection until the people of the world speak up for peace.

DAVIDON referred to and quoted from a pamphlet  
"The Big Hand in Your Pocket" prepared by E. RAYMOND WILSON,  
FRANCES E. NEELY and CONSTANCE LONGSHORE, published by the  
Peace Education Program, American Friends Service Committee,  
price 25 cents, during his remarks which brought up the point  
of the tremendous number of people engaged in producing nuclear  
weapons.

DAVIDON stated that unfortunately the United States  
had all too frequently found itself supporting dictators in  
other countries. It is apparent to everyone that dictators

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~~Confidential~~

never worked toward the best interests of the peoples they oppress and our support of them has, time after time, prejudiced the peoples of other countries against us. He said that our foreign aid should consist of sincere and personal help to the peoples of underdeveloped countries rather than to their rulers and that we should go into underdeveloped countries like India where they still gather up their dead from the streets every morning, with a good and sincere program to raise the standards of living of the people, not the standards of wealth of their rulers. He stated that situations similar to the one in Cuba were developing in Latin America, Africa and the <sup>LAOS 2-161</sup> ~~Congo~~. He said if we had supported the Cuban people and their revolution in Cuba we would not have made an enemy of CASTRO. Our opposition had forced CASTRO into the Russian sphere of influence because he had no other choice. Unless our program for foreign aid changes to a sincere effort to benefit the common people we may reasonably expect similar reverses.

Following DAVIDON's remarks, there was a question and answer period during which a woman, described as being in her forties, approximately 5'7" tall, weight 118 pounds, slender build, red hair ("dime store red hair"), face heavily made up ("hard looking, like a prostitute"), gaudy unpressed clothes, generally unkempt appearance, got up and stated she had formerly

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been attorney for the Packinghouse Workers until she had ~~been blacklisted~~  
been blacklisted. She said it made her angry for "you fellows  
to come here and sit on your fat fannies and think' you have  
the workers in the palm of your hand. You know G\_\_ D\_\_  
well what we need. The only answer to our problem is Socialism.  
Socialism is a dirty word now, but there was a time when most  
of the unions discussed the question of Socialism and reached  
the decision that it was the solution to our problem. The  
workers are being fooled now, but there will come a time when  
they will start moving and when they do they are going to roll  
right over". She received thunderous applause after which BOLLENS  
suggested that the conference take a coffee break.

After the coffee break, BOLLENS introduced SEYMOUR  
MELMAN as the next speaker.

MELMAN stated that the Russians were producing 4,000  
more scientists than the United States every year. He said he  
had visited Russia and that the Russian people were "fed up to  
their necks with the kind of government they have there". He  
said he had talked to the Russian people and had learned that  
Russian unions were "company unions" and that the Russian people  
had a strong desire for peace. He said they did not want to  
be caught up in a nuclear holocaust. He said the common people  
of the world all earnestly desire peace. MELMAN agreed with  
statements made by the previous speaker as to the tremendous

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~~Confidential~~

number of workers required to produce nuclear weapons and stated that many hospitals could be built and many schools could be erected and staffed to train teachers so that we could catch up to the Russians in their science superiority with the money expended for the fabrication of just one nuclear weapon.

He said that not all workers in the country were engaged in producing nuclear weapons directly and that many of them were employed in plants building other weapons and material for use in war. He stated our economy is geared to war production. He said one of the major reasons for continuing this war time economy and one of the reasons why some workers were reluctant to work for peace is the Government's realization that conversion to a peace time economy would result in wholesale unemployment for millions of persons and plunge this country into the depth of a depression. He said what was needed was the setting up of a commission to plan for conversion to a peace time economy by absorbing the workers into plants producing only peace time goods. He said labor could help the cause of peace by initiating such a commission which should be composed of representatives of labor, management and the Government and which preferably should have cabinet status. He said that until such a commission was set up there would be no planned conversion to peace time economy by the absorption

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of workers in peace time production. Russia should also have a similar planning commission.

~~Confidential~~

He stated that a more radical labor movement was needed as too many leaders accepted Government statements concerning the cold war as being true and without question. He said too many of the present day labor leaders know nothing whatever concerning the problems of the masses of workers in their unions because they are so involved in administration they are too far removed from basic labor problems. Too many of them are interested in their good paying jobs more than in the welfare of their union members. He said it was necessary for both members and leaders of unions to be more than just members. They must be dedicated trade unionists and point out and discuss contradictions as they arise. He stated that labor has a social responsibility to membership and that more solid factual printed information concerning peace and the cold war should be published and distributed by labor to its members and the public.

Following MELMAN's remarks, there was a question and answer period during which an individual in his early sixties, 5'8" tall, weight 160 pounds, medium build, wearing glasses, and who stated he was a member of the Carpenters Union, asked whether a shorter work week was feasible and whether labor should become more active in politics. MELMAN answered that there had recently been considerable discussion concerning a

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shorter work week and that he was of the opinion a shorter work week could only result from legislation at this time. ~~Confidential~~

He stated that steel was currently operating at fifty percent of its capacity and that auto was turning out more cars than ever before with one-third of its labor force laid off and that such overproduction worked to the disadvantage of labor. He said that even steadily employed laborers could look forward to lay offs of two or three months during the year without engaging in any strikes and that any consideration of going on strike at this time should be tempered with the knowledge that such a strike might well last a year or more because of the huge stockpiles the companies now have on hand. Under these conditions it would<sup>NOT Q-161</sup> be possible for unions to force adoption of a shorter work week by negotiation. As to the increased activity of labor in politics, he stated that this was a matter which should receive the serious consideration of labor and that such consideration should be along the line of electing representatives who are from and a part of the labor movement. He stated that Canada had already set up a Peoples Party and that the founders had not thought in terms of forming a third party, but had been primarily interested in electing its own candidates.

At this point a man who stated he was a representative of the Peoples Party of Canada who was attending the conference as a guest, said that the Peoples Party of Canada was composed

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of labor, small business and some professional people. ~~Confidential~~  
He said the Peoples Party of Canada was holding a convention  
in July and he would like as many of those present as possible  
to come up and observe the conference. He said that the people  
in Canada had grown tired of the liberal and conservative  
parties there because they were the parties of the rich and  
had decided to set up their own party. He said all labor was  
behind the Peoples Party and he felt it would have some effect  
on the labor movement in America. He said that the principal  
purpose of the new party was to obtain better and more efficient  
representation for labor and the masses in government. He said  
money came to the old established parties from industry whereas  
the money for his party came in nickels and dimes from the  
people because they realized that at last they had a party  
which would be their party.

This individual was approximately 52 years of age,  
5'11" tall, weight 140 pounds, slender build, light brown  
hair, bony face, and it was noted his sleeves were too short.

The conference then adjourned for lunch.

After lunch, there was a panel discussion during  
which several labor leaders spoke. EMIL MAZEY, Secretary  
Treasurer, United Auto Workers, was the first speaker. MAZEY  
stated that trouble was brewing in the AF of L - CIO. AF of L  
leaders were hewing to a lovestone policy and were pressing

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for increases in cold war measures because they desired to keep the cold war going. He said that GEORGE MEANY's ~~Confidential~~ feelings concerning the question of foreign policy were further to the right than those of the John Birch Society. He said that the merger between the AF of L and CIO had been one of the more unhappy events in labor history.

MAZEY stated he had made a recent speech on peace in Chicago and that the only newspaper that carried his speech in print was "The Worker". He said that people were afraid to speak out on the question of peace for fear that they would be labeled as Communists. He said that labor was going to have to speak out for peace because a nuclear war was unthinkable. He said that there was a crisis in the automobile industry because one-third of the automobile workers were unemployed and the companies were still producing more cars than ever before due to automation. He said it was a serious crisis and that he was unable to see its end at this time. He felt that a shorter work week appeared to be the only hope for improving the situation because it would at least take up the slack in unemployment. He felt that a shorter work week was the coming thing whether reached by negotiation or legislation and that while it <sup>NIGHT a-161</sup> might not be permanent it would at least ease the current situation. He stated there was an urgent necessity for setting up a national training commission with

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cabinet status to train the workers for and coordinate their absorption into a peace time economy. MAZEY said that he might be at odds with the top leadership of his union because of his position on peace, but that such differences would have to be because he felt the question of peace to be of the greatest importance.

The next speaker was JACOB CLAYMAN, Administrative Director, Industrial Union Department, AF of L - CIO. He said that there had to be a war waged on McCarthyism and that the cold war was kept alive by monopolists and the military. He said that the enemies of the people and labor were not always Communists, but were sometimes big business. He said that we need to re-examine our programs in underdeveloped countries and to add a sincere desire to benefit the common people of those countries rather than their rich leaders. He said there was no point in continuing to give money to the leaders of underdeveloped countries because very little of such money ever filtered down to the common people. He said the situation had reached the point that if the rich did not start helping the poor he was afraid there would eventually be no more rich people. He stated that the entire foreign policy of this country should be changed and that we would have to come to regard Communists as people with different points of view than ours in much the same manner as we now

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regard members of the John Birch Society.

CLAYMAN was followed by BEN SEGAL, Educational ~~Confidential~~  
Director, International Union of Electrical Workers.

SEGAL stated he had also visited the Soviet Union. He had talked to the Soviet people during his visit and had found them happy and busy at their work. He said he wanted to differ with a statement made by MELMAN that the people in Russia were fed up with their government because on the contrary they loved their government. He found that the Russian people sincerely desire peace and that there is complete unity between the people of Russia and their government on the question of peace. He stated that labors greatest gains had been made when the unions were more to the left by which reason he felt the salvation of labor is to the left.

A coffee break followed SEGAL's remarks.

After the coffee break, BOLLENS stated that those in attendance should be split up into smaller discussion groups to decide what resolutions should be offered for acceptance by the conference. Those present counted off from one to seven and all persons who were number one constituted discussion group number one, all persons who were number two constituted discussion group number two and so on, thus making a total of seven different discussion groups.

Discussion group one was led by a young man who

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appeared to be in his early thirties, 5'7" tall, weight ~~Confidential~~ 140 pounds, sandy brown hair, slow and deliberate in speech, who said he was a member of the American Friends Service Committee. Group one was composed of fourteen people besides the leader, it being noted that some persons present did not participate in the discussion groups. One member of group ~~was~~ was named JENKINS, who said he was a member of the International Longshoremen's Union in California. He was approximately 6'1" tall, weight 220 pounds, heavy build, red complexion, brown hair. There were also two young men, age 26 or 27, one with black hair weighing 160 pounds, 5'11" tall, and the other 6'2", weight 170 pounds, dark brown hair, immature appearance. Both said they were from the automobile industry in Detroit, Michigan. A woman who said she was from the Textile Workers in Philadelphia also participated in this group. She had coal black hair and a slightly foreign accent, appeared to be approximately 48 years of age, 5'6" tall, 125 pounds, and had thin, pointed features. There was also a man, age approximately 60 years, 5'8" tall, 160 pounds, gray-black hair and who wore glasses. He indicated he was a member of the Typographical Union in Chicago. Another participant was a steel worker from Chicago, age 52 years, 5'10" tall, 175 pounds, black hair, graying, wearing glasses. There was also a girl who appeared to be in her early twenties, height 5'6", weight

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118 pounds, brown hair and very well dressed.

~~Confidential~~

During the deliberations of this group, the man from the Typographical Union in Chicago said he had gotten into Russia by accident. He said he had been vacationing in Paris and had met a trade union group going to Russia on an exchange visit and that its members had prevailed upon him to go with them. He said he had enjoyed his visit tremendously and that he had toured Pravda as he was primarily interested in newspapers while the other members of the delegation, who were railroad workers, toured the railroad facilities. He said that prior to going to Russia he had heard a lot of propaganda that foreigners were not allowed to go where they pleased and were very strictly supervised. He said this was not true and that he found no restrictions whatever. He was privileged to go where he pleased and to see what he pleased when he got there. He said the Russian people appeared exactly like the people of any other country. He said he wanted to disagree with the statement made by MELMAN that Russian unions were company unions. There are no companies in Russia, but Russian unions exist and operate for the benefit of the workers just as they do in any other country. He said from what he could see the Russian unions had shop stewards, were operated on a democratic basis, and processed grievances just the same as in any other union any place. He said, of course, he did not know what would

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~~Confidential~~



happen in the event of a strike in Russia.

He stated that there had been considerable ~~Confidential~~ discussion in his union concerning a shorter work week and that he was opposed to a shorter work week at least as far as his own union was concerned. He said all members of his union were employed and that it was a problem to keep from working overtime. He felt a shorter work week would only aggravate the situation. He said he would like to propose a greater number and more frequent exchange of trade union delegations with Russia on a rank and file union member level as he felt rank and file union members would learn a lot during a visit to Russia.

The woman from the Textile Workers, Philadelphia, then proposed that the conference go on record as urging serious discussion on all levels of all unions concerning the adoption of the shorter work week as a means of alleviating the current unemployment situation. She said that she endorsed the suggestion previously made concerning greater and more frequent exchanges of trade union delegations with Russia because such exchanges would not only enlighten the American people, but bring about a better relationship between the American and Russian peoples.

JENKINS, the International Longshoreman from California, stated that his union officers were only allowed to serve two

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years, after which they were required to go back to the ~~Confidential~~ ranks of union membership and work. He said that way officers did not lose touch and understanding of the problems of the union membership. He said he was just mentioning this as something to receive consideration because he felt one of the biggest problems in labor today is the fact that most union leaders are too far removed from the every day personal problems of the members of their unions. He said he would like to propose that labor publish and distribute more literature on the subject of peace and he suggested that such literature be simplified to the point that nearly everyone would be capable of understanding it. He said something in the nature of a comic book would be ideal. He stated that statements by nuclear scientists concerning the situation were usually over the heads of the people and that it was necessary by all means to get an understanding of the situation to the people.

The Chicago steel worker agreed with JENKINS' suggestion concerning increased publication and distribution by labor of information regarding peace. He said that peace appears to be a subversive word to the United States Government today, but that the more the people were able to read about and understand the urgent necessity for peace, the more they would be able to overcome the fear of discussing peace among themselves. He said today workers support our Government in its cold war policy

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not because of any fear of attack, but purely on the basis of keeping their jobs. He said arms are keeping our economy <sup>going</sup> ~~going~~ and that if it comes to a question of either producing arms or being unemployed, the American worker will choose producing arms.

The young girl, previously mentioned, then stated that she agreed peace was a dirty word in this country at this time and that most people were afraid of being accused of being Communists if they spoke out in behalf of peace. She agreed with the necessity for labor organizations to publish and distribute more literature concerning peace because she stated most people believe what they read in the newspapers, not realizing that big business is tied in with the newspapers and that the papers will print anything favorable to the cause of big business.

At approximately 5:30 p.m., the conference adjourned for dinner.

The conference reconvened at 7:15 p.m. after dinner, and the master of ceremonies, JACK BOLLENS, introduced STEWART MEACHAM as the Director, National Peace Education Program, American Friends Service Committee. MEACHAM stated that his purpose was to coordinate the recommendations made by the various discussion groups that afternoon and to offer programs urged by the majority of such groups as resolutions for

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~~Confidential~~

future actions by those present. He stated that in his work he was in and out of Washington, D.C. frequently and that he often had the opportunity of talking with Senators and Representatives and discussing the problem of peace with them. He said he met some who disagreed with his views on peace and some who seemed most sincere in their desire for peace. He said that the question of World War III was absolutely unthinkable because the devastation resulting from nuclear warfare would completely wreck society as we know it. He said he would like to recommend the adoption of a slogan, "A world at peace or a world in pieces". He then read the suggestions that had received the support of the majority of the discussion groups. They were that a committee to be known as the Coordinating Committee for Labor's Program for Peace be set up in the American Friends Service Committee to coordinate labor's efforts toward peace and that similar committees be set up in all union locals; that union locals gear their sights on setting up similar groups in all types of community organizations and on holding local conferences on peace, jobs and freedom; that speaker's bureaus be set up under the Coordinating Committee for the purpose of furnishing speakers for such local conferences; that the question of the lovestone policy of the AF of L be widely discussed in all unions and be brought into question at every opportunity; and that all unions<sup>2-161</sup> increase their publication and regular

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distribution of information concerning peace in pamphlet ~~Confide~~ form to their rank and file membership and the public generally.

At this point, a young man with glasses stated that his group had recommended more frequent exchanges of trade union delegations with Russia and the increasing of efforts to obtain the adoption of a shorter work week in this country. He wanted to know why such recommendations had not been included.

BOLLENS stated that they had tried to compile the general feeling of the body. Some resolutions had not been considered suitable since they were not generally approved. They were therefore omitted. He said it was felt that the question of a shorter work week was one which the labor leaders themselves should discuss and then decide what measures they would adopt to secure.

BOLLENS then gave a break down on attendance. He stated that a total of 275 individuals had registered as delegates to the conference. The automobile industry had the largest delegation, amounting to 46 persons. 51 different international unions were represented. He stated that minutes of the conference would be mailed to each delegate and that from time to time each delegate would receive requests for donations in order that the work might be carried on. He said that one of the propositions read by MEACHAM regarding the publication and distribution of more literature concerning

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peace would be followed by the American Friends Service ~~Confidential~~  
Committee and that specimens of such literature obtained by  
the committee would be mailed to each delegate from time to  
time. He stated it was planned that future conferences would  
be held in other parts of the country. BOLLENS then introduced  
FRANK ROSENBLUM as General Secretary-Treasurer of the Amalgamated  
Clothing Workers.

ROSENBLUM stated that there is no answer to the  
present dilemma of unemployment, cold war and rising taxes,  
but that the gap between the social and economic thinking of  
the nation would have to be bridged. He said that all people  
would have to become interested in the question of peace because  
the survival of the human race depends on peace, jobs and freedom  
which are the bases of our society. He said that nuclear weapons  
were non-discriminatory and that they would destroy everyone  
and everything regarding of race, class, creed or color. He  
said it was the utmost folly to believe that wars could be  
prevented by preparing for them and that instead of war  
preparations nations should begin to think of solving the  
problem by means of better international relationships and  
understanding. He said it would be necessary for the labor  
movement to learn more of social science and that labor leaders  
would have to do more than simply talk about peace. He said  
it would be necessary for labor to play a more active role

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in such matters as civil rights and the Negro question. He stated in his opinion automation constituted a second industrial revolution and that it could be beneficial to all by increasing the worker's time for the pursuit of cultural activities. Considerable coordinated effort must be employed in attaining this result. High levels of employment may be reached in spite of automation if we are able to increase our economic growth by a mere five percent each year.

He said that peace had become a human imperative and had become everybody's business. He said it was the job of labor to let the ordinary worker know that peace means more not less jobs and he felt labor would grasp the question of peace.

He said the John Birch Society was composed of agents of Fascism and that HITLER had started in the same manner.

He stated that the labor movement would have to play a more active role in the question for peace and that by labor's action it would be judged.

The conference was then brought to a close.

The following literature was prepared in a packet and given to each delegate to the conference at the opening session: "Labor and the Cold War", by STEWART MEACHAM, published by the Peace Education Program, American Friends Service Committee; "Labor's Stake in Peace", full text of

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a speech by EMIL MAZEY and excerpts of speeches by WILLIAM DAVIDON and FENNER DROCKWAY; "Community of Fear", by HARRISON BROWN and JAMES REAL, published by the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Santa Barbara, California; "Peace the Present Imperative", an address by FRANK ROSENBLUM, no publisher indicated, but publication by Amalgamated Clothing Workers presumed. ~~Confidential~~

The following literature was available to delegates at prices indicated: "Race and Conscience in America", review prepared by the American Friends Service Committee by the University of Oklahoma press, printed in Norman, Oklahoma, price 35 cents; "The Big Hand in Your Pocket", prepared by E. RAYMOND WILSON, FRANCES E. NEELY and CONSTANCE LONGSHORE, published by the Peace Education Program, American Friends Service Committee, price 25 cents.

LULABELLE HOLMES, a member of the National Executive Board of the Negro American Labor Council, was observed among those present at this session of the conference.

Members of the Communist Party observed among those in attendance at this session of the conference were: SAM KUSHNER, FLO HALL, LUCIOUS ARMSTRONG, RAY DENNIS, JAMES JACKSON (it was noted that JACKSON wore a badge which indicated he was a representative of "The Worker"), ORVIL LEACH, JAMES WILBURN, and MERLON HINES. These individuals made no apparent attempt ~~Confidential~~ 64

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to influence or dominate the conference and did not speak ~~Confidential~~ or ask questions from the floor, although they were observed in conversation with numerous other delegates to the conference from time to time. The majority of these individuals did not participate in the afternoon discussion groups. KUSHNER and DENNIS were together most of the conference and were frequently observed engaged in animated and laughing conversation with various delegates. JACKSON appeared more reserved and did not engage in as many conversations. *Q 4*

During one of the intermissions, a man described as being in his mid fifties, height 5'10", weight 180 pounds, stocky build, black hair, who said he was a member of a Machinists Union in Wisconsin, and his wife, who is described as 5'8" tall, weight 135 pounds, in her mid forties, long black hair, and wearing glasses, introduced themselves to ORVIL LEACH and stated they were elated over the conference and that they thought it was a very good thing for the people to speak out on peace. They indicated hope that there would be other similar conferences in the future. *Q 4*

Also during one of the coffee breaks, LEACH and the St. Louis delegation engaged an elderly couple in conversation. The man was approximately 72 years of age, height 5'11", weight 170 pounds, hair gray, complexion pale, face wrinkled, neatly dressed, and his wife appeared to be approximately 68

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years of age, 5'7" tall, weight 150 pounds, build stout, highly colored face, slight foreign accent believed Polish, dressed plainly in gingham dress. They said they were formerly members of the Garment Workers' Union in Chicago, and that they were "old Socialists". They said they felt the American people were about ready for Socialism and the wife said that the only thing labor unions would have to do would be to raise the question and she thought the people would accept Socialism. ~~Confidential~~ qu

During the first coffee break on this date, LULABELLE HOLMES engaged the St. Louis delegation in conversation, and stated that the Negro American Labor Council in Chicago was continuing to have difficulty because of two factions in the organization. She asked concerning the St. Louis Chapter and one of the delegates gave her a copy of "The Crusader", a publication printed by the Chairman of the St. Louis Chapter NALC and several members of the chapter who donated their services, and which contained news of the Negro community and which the Chairman hoped would eventually be adopted as the official publication of the St. Louis Chapter NALC. HOLMES stated she was glad to see the St. Louis delegation there and that she wanted to hear from them as so far no Negro had spoken during the question and answer period. She then inquired as to the Negro unemployment situation in St. Louis, and was advised it amounted to 35 to 40 thousand Negroes unemployed. She stated

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that Negro unemployment was a great problem in Chicago too. ~~Confidential~~ 44

Characterizations of persons herein as members of  
the Communist Party are based on previous observation of such  
individuals in attendance at meetings of the Communist Party. 44

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# Racists, Birch Group Meet in Chicago

By SAM KUSHNER

CHICAGO—Much of the furor around the John Birch Society has died down, but the group goes on, peddling hate, war, racism and reaction. *MW 2-1*

The midwest has in the last several weeks been the scene of three frontal reactionary assaults.

One assault was launched by the so-called Independent American Forum, which has just concluded another of its racist gatherings in Chicago, with representatives of more than a dozen states, mostly Southern, as its main participants.

Earlier the National Military Industrial Conference hiding behind its innocent sounding name, organized as dedicated a group of military men and big business tycoons who ache for war with the Soviet Union as can be found anywhere.

And now stumping through the Middle West is a pitchman who has earned the praise of Robert Welch, founder and fuhrer of Birch Society. This pitchman is Dr. Fred Schwarz, president of the Christian Anti-Communist Crusade.

In this, the first of series of articles on the activities of these groups in the Middle West, we will take the reader through some of the nauseating sessions of the Independent American Forum. Lest they be written off as actions of crackpots, one should keep in mind that one of the main speakers, John Anderson, edits a magazine (Farm and Ranch) with a readership of 1,300,000.

At least 375 newspapers carry his racist rantings in a column called "Straight Talk." Anderson, a member of the top council of the John Birch Society, has two heroes — Ezra Taft Benson, Eisenhower's secretary of agri-

culture, and Robert Welch.

From Salt Lake City, Mayor J. Bracken Lee, came to the gathering that included racists and anti-semites to proudly announce that he "was honored to be a sponsor of the Birch Society when asked by Robert Welch." Lee emphasized that he is not a "joiner," but he made an exception for the Birch Society.

## CONGRESSMEN AT FORUM

Congressman Heistand of California lent his presence to the Forum proceedings as did Michigan's Congressman, August Johansen, who came to defend his committee — the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Willis E. Stone of Los Angeles, who has a passionate love for anti-union right to work laws, boasted how his Peck Associates news service feeds 26 newspapers with a readership of 20 millions. He modestly admitted that his doses of reactionary spewings are not as powerful as "friends like the (Chicago) Tribune," but he added "we get along."

Top billing for the three-day meeting held in the Morrison Hotel went to Editor Anderson. Here are some exact quotes from his speech:

"Peaceful co-existence is an immoral fraud."

"I am a segregationist."

"Down in Washington there is Mr. Sam No. 1 (Rayburn) and Mr. Sam No. 2, (Sammy Davis)."

"There is no other country in the world except the U. S. which treats its minorities better, especially 'Nigras.'" (Like all chauvinists, Anderson can't bear to use the word, Negro, properly pronounced.)

## TABLE TALK WORSE

The rantings from the platform, however, were mild compared to the table conversation

according to one who was there. At one table, a long discussion took place on the forged "Protocols of Zion", one of the main

*new match  
John Birch Society*

THE WORKER

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pieces of "literature" in the arsenal of anti-semites and fascists.

A Michigan delegate ranted about how the revolutions are merely the pawns of millionaire corporations, "just paid for by the big (Jewish) conspiracy which gets Jews off the hook."

The conservatism that pervaded this convention was of the anti-Semitic, anti-Soviet and anti-Negro stripe, judging from the bulk of the discussions taking place on the conference floor.

It was in the midst of this kind of a gathering that the national Committee for a Right to Work Law sent its new leader, Lafayette Hooser, who initiated a new drive for passage of anti-labor laws.

Roger W. Claus, leader of the Intercollegiate Students for Individualists (ISI), was one of the main speakers and earned accolades from Willis Stone and Congressman Helstead. This was the youth front of the racist meeting.

#### HATE SHEET PUBLISHER

The boss of the conference was a New Orleans publisher of one of America's most notorious hate sheets. He was Kent Courtney, the proud and self-proclaimed leader of the John Birch Society of New Orleans, who publishes The Independent American.

That Courtney is deeply infected with the fuhrer complex was plain. Soon after Anderson finished his diatribe at the banquet, a visiting lady rose to speak. No sooner had she stood up when Anderson peremptorily ordered her to be seated.

Her explanation that she was friendly to the "cause" and merely wanted to discuss Anderson's plea was to no avail. Courtney ordered two of his aides to seat her immediately. He explained "rules must be upheld since there is a Communist front meeting in the same hotel." He referred to a gathering held

under the auspices of the Quaker organization.

Courtney, a strong advocate of a political party obviously made up of Southern dixiecrats and Northern reactionaries, gives voice in **The Independent American** to communications from W. J. Simmons, head of the Mississippi (White) Citizens Council, as well as major quotations from the Birch Society's Robert Welch.

#### HUAC DEFENSE IS AIM

In recent days the hallmark of all extreme reactionary groups has been their defense of the House Un-American Activity Committee, and this racist gathering underscored its position by showing the forged film, "Operation abolition" and having Congressman Johansen speak at the meeting.

Just as in the days immediately prior to World War II, when the links of the Nazi Bund, the America First Committee and a myriad of similar organizations were knit together in a web of fascism, so, too, do we find the new network emerging. This time it is aimed at inciting World War III.

Courtney, in a recent issue of his newspaper, details the "effective anti-Communist" books and organizations. J. Edgar Hoover's "Masters of Deceit" heads the Courtney list, followed by the writings of Elizabeth Bentley and others.

But the congressional committees also are a source of strength to the pro-fascists. Courtney's paper recommends "you should read selected reports of the House Committee on Un-American activities and the reports of the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security."

The names of 100 other periodicals against Communism (as interpreted by Courtney), the readers are told, can be obtained from American Opinion (published by Robert Welch) and Bookmailer (purveyor of anti-

semitic and other reactionary literature.)

#### NAME PRINTING SOURCE

One other source of "literature" is named, Caxton Printers of Caldwell, Idaho. James H. Gibson, president of Caxton Printers, was associated with some of the nation's most notorious pro-fascist in the early 1940s. This outfit is still doing business at the same old stand.

Among the organizations receiving the seal of approval from the segregationists is the Cardinal Mindzenty League, with headquarters in St. Louis; the Christian Anti-Communist Crusade, headed by Dr. Schwarz; and of course the John Birch Society.

But above all, the devoted Anti-Communist is urged to purchase a print of the film Operaspired by the House Un-American Activities Committee

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**NEXT WEEK** we will deal with one of the more "respectable" organizations of the right, the National-Military Industrial Conference, which also had its national meeting in Chicago during recent days.





ROBERT WELCH, founder of the Birch Society, (top left) wasn't present at the Independent American Forum, but he obviously was the hero of

the meeting. Tom Anderson, lower left, a member of Welch's top group, and Congressman Hiestand, upper right, were there and spoke. So did Salt

Lake City Mayor J. Bracken Lee lower center, and Michigan Congressman August Johansen, lower right.



# Kennedy Off The Birch List, Welch Reveals

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Robert W. Welch, head of the controversial John Birch Society, said Sunday that President Kennedy's name has been dropped from the list of officials the group does not approve.

But he said the omission does not repudiate criticisms the society leveled at Mr. Kennedy when he was in the Senate.

Welch declined to comment on Mr. Kennedy's record in the White House so far, except to say he would "like to see the honeymoon go on longer."

He did say, however, that he thought Mr. Kennedy was "under Communist influence" while he was a Senator.

Welch said he wanted to get a broader perspective from current events before assessing the President's White House record.

In a sometimes sharp exchange with panel members on NBC's Meet the Press, Welch also denied that he ever had said "in writing or in words" that former President Dwight D. Eisenhower was a Communist.

He said he made such a statement in letters sent out to close friends. He said the contents of the letters had been made public through a "serious breach of confidence, unethical journalism and disregard of my property rights."

He said Mr. Eisenhower's name had not been dropped from the "Blue Book," although some members favored such action.

Welch also denied, under questioning, that the society is a secret organization. He described it as a nonprofit educational group dedicated to fighting communism and preserving a "constitutional republic" in this country, rather than a democracy.

He declined, however, to say what the society's 1960 income

was or how many members it had.

A policeman waited outside the studio during the show and then escorted Welch to his car. William Gearhart said he had

been ordered to the studio "to make sure Mr. Welch doesn't have any trouble."

He said that police guards had not been provided for other guests on the program.

## CHICAGO SUN TIMES

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Part 1

Editor EMMETT DEERON

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5/25/61

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JEWISH CULTURAL CLUBS OF CHICAGO  
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On 5/5/61, [REDACTED] who has furnished reliable information in the past, made available to SA [REDACTED] certain information contained at Jewish Cultural Club Headquarters, 177 North State Street, Chicago, Illinois. *u*

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Among this material was an announcement of a Jewish Cultural Clubs sponsored forum to be held on 5/2/61. This announcement is located in 100-32906-1A105 and is as follows: *b7C*

4 - Chicago

1 - A [REDACTED] *u*

1 - [REDACTED]

1 - 100-36671 (JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY)

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*CONFIDENTIAL*



~~Confidential~~ May 2, 1961

Dear Friends:

You are cordially invited to attend our next

F O R U M

' Sunday, May 7, 1961, at 7 PM  
' at the  
' Holiday Hall, 3812 Lawrence.

The highly controversial and timely film

"OPERATION ABOLITION"

will be shown with comments by Mr. ARTHUR MAC EWAN, a student  
at the University of Chicago.

Questions and discussion.

The Film was produced by the HUAC and is now being used as  
the chief propaganda item by the infamous John Birch Society.

Come, see the film, hear how facts and pictures can be  
falsified to aid reaction.

Bring Friends. Admission 75 cents.

CITY COMMITTEE JEWISH CULTURAL CLUBS



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
M E M O R A N D U M

~~Confidential~~

TO : SAC, CHICAGO (100-32906)

DATE: 6-1-61

FROM :

SA [redacted] qu

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SUBJECT : JEWISH CULTURAL CLUBS  
OF CHICAGO  
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On 5/18/61, [redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past, made available a handwritten report dated 5/8/61 concerning a City Committee forum held on 5/7/61 at Holiday Hall, 3800 Lawrence Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. This information is located in A [redacted] and is as follows: 4

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Recommendation

None.

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~~Confidential~~

Chicago, Illinois  
May 8, 1961

Some of the people who attended were:

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LEO BERMAN was chairman for the evening. He introduced the speaker for the evening, ARTHUR MC EWAN. Mr. MC EWAN explained how the film was obtained. Some of the students got together and gave some money and they obtained it from the Library of Congress. He explained that this is the film the "Birch Society" is showing.

Mr. MC EWAN said that the students were supposed to have rioted but in the film you do not see this. He explained that due to this three students who were here as exchange students were sent back to their native lands and that these students were merely at the sessions of the House Un-American Activities Committee to see what they were like. He said that although the sessions ran for three days, Thursday through Saturday, the majority of the students were there only on Saturday. The other days they had classes. He said there were many discrepancies in the film. A question and answer period followed the film.

**Confidential**

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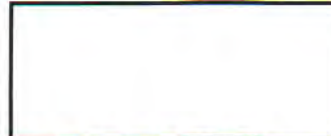
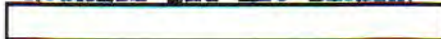
~~Confidential~~

May 8, 1961  
Chicago, Illinois

On Sunday evening, May 7, 1961, at the Holiday Hall, 3800 West Lawrence Avenue, the City Committee of the Jewish Cultural Clubs, presented the last of the forums for the season they showed "Operation Abolition". Some of those were were present:



ROSALIE and LEO BERMAN



ARTHUR MC EWAN

b7C

The program was chaired by LEO BERMAN, who introduced Mr. MC EWAN who gave the background of the picture. He was in San Francisco right after the incident took place and said that some of the scenes were deliberately distorted and were used by the HUAC for propaganda purposes. He then showed the film and it was quite obvious at certain intervals that the film was doctored even the speaking parts were unintelligible. He also said that ultra conservative "Birch Society" was using this film for their own uses.

Mr. MC EWAN is a student at the University of Chicago, and he belongs to an organization which owns the film.

A question and answer period followed after the showing of the film. It was very interesting. An important point that most of this happened on a Saturday afternoon because of classes etc. at the university.

- 1 -

~~Confidential~~

DECLASSIFIED BY *SP-6 J. J. [illegible]*  
ON *5-4-84*



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (100-0)

DATE: 6/26/61

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: BIRCH SOCIETY  
"AMERICAN OPINION" PUBLICATION  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

*American Opinion  
100-0-913  
Americans  
by some of the  
100-0-135716*

On this date at 2:25 p.m. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], telephone [REDACTED] telephonically advised she received through the mail a publication entitled "American Opinion". She said it was contained in a plain envelope with no return address and the pamphlet indicated if reprints are desired to write to "American Opinion", Belmont, Massachusetts.

[REDACTED] stated she felt the contents of the pamphlet entitled "Differences Between a Republic and a Democracy" appears to her to lean toward Communist propaganda and for this reason she was calling this office. She requested any information this office might have concerning this publication and was advised any information in our files is confidential and cannot be furnished to her. b7C

It is noted, according to 100-0-912 and 100-0-78598A, page 2, "American Opinion" is a publication edited and directed by ROBERT H. W. WELCH, 43 Fletcher Rd., Belmont, Massachusetts.

ALL:wmn  
(1) *wmn*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/14/80 BY SP1 GSK/CA

100-36671-149  
SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
JUL 26 1961  
[REDACTED] *jet*



DREW PEARSON

## Birch-G.O.P. Alliance Seen

WASHINGTON — This may be denied, but Republican national headquarters has passed the word to its field workers to form an undercover alliance with the John Birch society wherever it may be politically profitable.

The purpose: To attack Democratic candidates as "soft on communism."

The strategy is being deftly handled. G. O. P. planners are aware of the fact that the "bible" of the Birch society calls Dwight D. Eisenhower a "Communist," and they know their tactics could backfire. In Arizona, therefore, Sen. Barry Goldwater hasn't openly indorsed the society, but he has declared that the "finest citizens" in his state are members.

Ironically, Goldwater's praise for the local John Birch branch came just as one of its national leaders, Kent Courtney, a New Orleans editor, was describing Goldwater as a "tainted Socialist."

In Wyoming, the Republicans and John Birch crowd already are working together against Sen. Gale McGee, a former professor, who is hitting back.

### Philosophy in 3 Books

He has found after considerable research that the society's political philosophy is built around three books.

1. The Blue Book—This is the operational battle plan for infiltrating and taking over civic groups. In this 182 page book, Robert Welch, the leader, says "believe in me and follow me—otherwise get out or be kicked out."

2. The White Book—This is a collection of the monthly marching orders and letters of

instruction to society members. It contains attacks upon any and all with whom Welch happens to disagree. Even the Chamber of Commerce of the United States is suspected on some issues, and reference is made to the left-wing infiltration of the chamber's Washington offices.

### Society Embarrassed

3. The Black Book—This has so embarrassed the society that it is now passed off as a manuscript written by Welch before the society was formed. Written in 1954, it describes then-President Eisenhower as a conscious "Communist" maneuvered and directed skillfully by his "communist" brother, Dr. Milton Eisenhower. Former Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and his brother, Allen Dulles, are pictured as pro-communist.

Comments Sen. McGee: "The philosophy reflected in the basic thesis of the John Birch leaders is one of fear. They distrust anyone who refuses to buy their line. They even fear each other."

"One of the serious consequences of the movement is that in its extremes it has tended to discredit respectable conservatism in the United States . . . At this critical moment, it is imperative that the two great philosophical forces historically present on the American horizon — conservatism and liberalism—have full and free play on the solution to the great questions of our time."

"It was the liberals who wrote the Declaration of Independence, but it was the conservatives who wrote the Constitution a dozen years later. Had the conservatives prevailed at Philadelphia in 1776, we might still be subjects of the British empire. Had the liberals prevailed at Philadelphia in 1787, it is not likely that we would have the enduring framework of our constitutional system which has served us so long."



Drew Pearson

*Search  
John  
Birch  
Society*

## THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

DIAMOND FINAL Edition

Date JUL 1 - 1961

Chicago, Illinois

Page 11 Col. 6

Part —  
Editor LUKE P. CARROLL

CHICAGO OFFICE

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DATE 2/14/80 BY SP1 GSK/CA

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 1 - 1961	
FBI - CHICAGO	

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## KKK, Birchers Must Register

WILMINGTON, Del. — (UPI) — The Ku Klux Klan and the John Birch society were added to the list of organizations to which police department applicants here must answer questions concerning membership. *7-3*

Alleged Communist and Fascist organizations were the only ones listed for previous applicants.

Police Chief John J. Smith said the order came from "upstairs" but Mayor John E. Biazar refused to comment.

## DAILY DEFENDER

Edition

Date JUL 5 - 1961

Chicago, Illinois

Page *7* Col. *3*

Part *—*

Editor JOHN H. SENGSTACKE

CHICAGO OFFICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE *2/14/80* BY *SP1 GSK/CN*

*[Signature]*  
b7C  
*2*

*100-36671-151*  
SEARCHED ..... INDEXED .....  
SERIALIZED ..... FILED .....  
JUL 6 - 1961  
FBI - CHICAGO  
*[Redacted Box]* *[Signature]*

DIRECTOR, FBI

July 10, 1961

SAC, CHICAGO (100-36671)

[redacted]  
Paddock Publications, Inc.,  
John Birch Society  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

This is to advise the Bureau that [redacted]  
[redacted] of the Paddock Publications, Inc., a publishing chain controlling 14 suburban newspapers in the Northern area of Illinois, has confidentially contacted the Chicago Office and advised that he has been assigned to do a feature series of articles on the John Birch Society. He has pointed out that he personally has no sympathies with this organization and that the only purpose for his anticipated application to join the organization is to secure information for his newspaper articles which he will publish after he has been able to secure information concerning the organization.

As part of his article, he anticipates making application and joining this group. He has indicated that he desires to advise the Bureau that his joining the group is only for the purpose of securing material for his newspaper articles and that it in no way indicates a personal belief or adherence to the ideals of this organization. He has indicated that as of possible personal protection, he anticipates that he will send a letter to the Bureau wherein he will set forth these facts and that he will ask that the Bureau be advised of the true nature of his activities in this manner. b7C

This letter is submitted to the Bureau so that the Bureau may be advised concerning the background of [redacted] and his true interest in the John Birch Society. His chain of newspapers has been friendly to the Bureau and is the most prominent chain of newspapers in the area to the Northwest of the City of Chicago. Indices of the Chicago Office are negative concerning any derogatory information regarding him.

2 - Bureau  
1 - Chicago  
RBY:sjb  
(3)

Searched \_\_\_\_\_  
Serialized \_\_\_\_\_  
Indexed \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed \_\_\_\_\_

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/18/80 BY SP1 GSK/ON

100 36671-  
152



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (100-0)

DATE: 6/15/61

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

INFORMATION CONCERNING -  
JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY  
INTERNAL SECURITY

At 1:43 p.m. on June 15, 1961, above captioned individual telephonically contacted this office and desired to ascertain if it would be permissible for him to join the John Birch Society.

SA [REDACTED] advised [REDACTED] that the FBI does not pass judgment either pro or con concerning any individual, group or organization and as such could not make any type of a recommendation concerning this matter.

b7C

[REDACTED] stated that he resides at [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Chicago 28, Illinois and has Chicago phone [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

The above is being submitted for the information of the file. No action recommended.

CAH:wmn  
(1) *wmn*

100 - 36671 - 153

SEARCHED .....	INDEXED .....
SERIALIZED .....	FILED .....
JUN 16 1961	
FBI - CHICAGO	

[REDACTED] *Qm*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 2/14/80 BY SP1 GSK/CA

# Quits Birch Society Over List Issue

HOUSTON (AP)—A prominent Houston member of the John Birch Society said Friday she has quit the militant right-wing organization because of its founder's request for a list of liberals, Socialists and Communist sympathizers.

Mrs. W. L. Goldston was one of 11 Texans on the society's committee of endorsers. She is the widow of a wealthy Houston oilman.

## 'I See No Value'

"I see no value to such a list and have no access to documented evidence on any person," she said in a letter to Robert Welch, the founder of the controversial society.

She made the letter public Friday, saying it was mailed Thursday.

"I believe in leaving such work to authorized lawful organizations such as the FBI," the letter said.

The widow said she thinks most of the 20 or 25 members in her chapter of the society will resign for the same reason.

A Welch aide in Belmont, Mass., said he had no comment.

## Asks "Commsymp" Data

Mrs. Goldston said Welch, in his July bulletin to members,

asked their help in getting information on the background, connections, and activities of leading American liberals and "commsymp" — a word he coined for Communist sympathizers.

"Before we've dealt with issues—not people," Mrs. Goldston told a newsman. "This was a new departure. I think other people have just as much right to be liberals as I have to be a conservative."

## CHICAGO SUN TIMES

FIVE STAR  
FINAL TURF

Edition

Date JUL 15 1961

Chicago, Illinois

Page 10 Col. 3

Part —

Editor EMMETT DEDMON

CHICAGO OFFICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/14/80 BY SP1GSK/CA

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*searched*

## Midwest Writers Confirm Military-Right Wing Ties

CHICAGO — During the past several years The Worker has regularly spotlighted the insidious alliance between military leaders—active and retired—and rightwing groups in the United States. The Worker was the only national newspaper to report on the activities of the Institute for American Strategy and its annual Military-Industrial Conferences.

The Worker also was the only national publication to expose the Glenview Naval Air base "anti-Communist seminar" last September.

In a July 13 dispatch to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Marquis W. Childs reports a memorandum submitted to the White House and the Defense Department which cites the close alliance between the Right Wing groups and the military.

Activities at the Glenview Naval Air Base in suburban Chicago, speeches by Rear Admiral Chester Ward, ret. (Washington head of the American Security Council) and an Arkansas "seminar" dominated by Harding College of Searcy, Arkansas, a notorious right wing center of activity, are cited.

On July 13 Thomas B. Ross, writing in the Chicago Sun-Times from Washington, reported:

"The movie (Operation Abolition) was brought to the Pentagon's attention last year by a reserve officer attending a seminar at the nearby National War College under the direction of the Institute for American Strategy, a non-profit group in Chicago.

"The Institute's sponsorship was dropped by the Pentagon for this year's seminar which is now being held under direct control of the Joint Chiefs of Staff."

To assure his readers that anti-Communism is not being dropped as a key part of the Pentagon's "educational program" Ross concludes by saying, "the defense department is also now making its own anti-Communist films."

The Institute for American Strategy has been exposed as being an alliance between some of the biggest names in American industry including some former leaders of the America First Committee and the military leaders.

Admiral Arleigh Burke, who up to a few weeks ago, was one of the Pentagon's Chiefs of Staff, spoke at the last session of the Institute in Chicago, The Worker reported.

THE WORKER

Date *July 23, 1961*

Page *nw 4* Col. *4*

*CCV  
North  
John Birch Society  
5-2*

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DATE *2/14/80* BY *SP1 GSK/CA*

*100-36626-155*

*52*

*w*



DREW PEARSON

## Birch Aid Toured with Benson

Chicago's **AMERICAN**  
Keep On Top Of The News

EDITORIAL PAGE

STUART LIST, Publisher

Largest Evening Home Delivered  
Circulation in Chicago and Suburbs

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 1961

Susskind—Do you believe the United Nations is a communist plot and is working to the bad interests of our country?

Anderson—Next to the Communists, I think it is our greatest enemy.

Susskind—Why?

Anderson—I do not believe in co-existence. It is as nonsensical as frayed snowballs.

Despite these views, Benson took Anderson with him on two trips in Military Air Transport Services planes which cost the department of agriculture around \$75,000. As an individual flying on commercial lines, the trip would have cost Anderson about \$3,100.

MY 2

THE WORKER, SUNDAY, MAY 14, 1961

## Racists, Birch Group Meet in Chicago

For as long as they be written off as victims of crackpots, one should keep in mind that one of the main speakers, John Anderson, edits a magazine (Farm and Ranch) with a readership of 1,300,000.

At least 375 newspapers carry his racist rantings in a column called 'Straight Talk.' Anderson is a member of the top council of the John Birch Society, has two heroes — Ezra Taft Benson, Eisenhower's secretary of agriculture, and Robert Welch.

From Salt Lake City Mayor J. Bracken Lee came to the gathering that included racists and antisemites to proudly an-

Top billing for the three-day meeting held in the Morrison Hotel went to Editor Anderson. Here are some exact quotes from his speech:

Peaceful co-existence is an immoral fraud.

It is a segregationist.

'Down in Washington there is Mr. Sam No. 1 (Rayburn) and Mr. Sam No. 2 (Strom Thurmond).

There is no other country in the world except the U.S. which treats its minorities better especially Negroes. (Like all chauvinists Anderson can't bear to use the word Negro properly pronounced.)

YOU READ IT first in The Worker. On May 14 The Worker said: "Publisher of Farm and Ranch magazine, Tom Anderson, a member of the top council of the John Birch Society, has two heroes — Ezra Taft Benson, Eisenhower's Secretary of Agriculture, and Robert Welch."

On July 12, Drew Pearson revealed the same close affinity between Anderson and Benson. Anderson accompanied Benson on two extensive overseas trips, as a "news correspondent." In 1959, at government expense, the party toured Germany, Poland, USSR, Finland, Sweden and Norway.

Anderson joined Benson in another government-sponsored tour to Hawaii, Japan, Formosa, the Philippines, Australia and New Zealand.

The Birchites love to denounce government spending on social welfare. But Government spending for Birchites on free-loading trips is apparently OK with them.



# Wisconsin Governor Brands Birch Blasts At Reds A Ruse

MADISON, Wis. (UPI) — Gov. Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin Sunday night accused the archconservative John Birch Society of being more interested in blocking progressive legislation than in combating communism.

In a speech to more than 1,000 delegates at the opening of the National Student Assn.'s 14th annual congress at the University of Wisconsin, Nelson said:

"In our country, the attack on freedom of speech and freedom of inquiry is frequently masked as a crusade against Communist subversion.

## 'Status Quo Ante'

"The expression of an indigenous American drive toward progress is often branded as alien Marxism by those who are committed to the status quo, if not to the status quo ante," he said.

"It is clear from the avowed commitments of such groups as the John Birch Society that the real goal is far less to combat the pathetic remnants of the Communist Party in this country than it is to emasculate progressive legislation that has developed directly out of American experience and American needs," Nelson said.

The Democratic governor warned the delegates, who are expected to battle over whether conservatives or liberals will run the association, not to confuse with Communists those who differ with the majority.

Nelson said he does not believe the young generation of Americans is basically conservative. He cited the sit-ins, and freedom rides, and the enthusiasm for the Peace Corps and said, "Surely this is not conservative."

He said the nation had be-

come "soft and cynical and smug" and "desperately needs a massive infusion of the idealism that has traditionally marked the young people."

Nelson said it is "sheer lunacy to suggest that we repeal the income tax, destroy social security, dismantle the TVA program, and starve the foreign aid program."

## Refers To Goldwater

"We do not embrace government action as a panacea for all the ills of our society. But we must be committed to the prudent employment of public planning and public participation in the significant areas of our life where individuals are powerless to meet their own needs or the requirements of the general welfare," Nelson said.

Nelson referred to a statement by Sen. Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.), that conservatives must be dedicated to the preservation of the dignity of the individual and freedom for all men.

Nelson said all Americans were dedicated to this principle, but, "We must believe just as deeply in the concept of the general welfare and in the capacity of a free people, through their elected government, to work toward that ideal of equality of opportunity that has haunted men's minds through the ages."

Nelson said the challenge of our time is to provide for the common good while retaining undamaged the essential guarantees of freedom.

*John Birch Society  
match  
5-2*

## CHICAGO SUN TIMES

FIVE STAR  
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Page 8 Col. 1

Part 1

Editor EMMETT DEDMON

CHICAGO OFFICE

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## 4-7 GROUNDS TO IMPEACH WARREN

# Birch Group Offers \$2,500 Contest

TULSA (UPI)—The John Birch society announced yesterday a \$2,500 essay contest on "grounds for the impeachment of Earl Warren, chief justice of the United States."

Robert Welch, founder-head of the Birch society, made the announcement at the opening of the 3d annual Christian crusade convention where he was keynote speaker.

Witnesses to the San Francisco riots against the House committee on Un-American Activities were scheduled to speak in today's session. Sources said they may make statements implicating another "liberal" member of the high court.

Willis Carto, founder of the liberty lobby, and Dr. G. Archer Weniger, a Baptist pastor, both from the San Francisco area, were to give personal observations about the riots. A movie on the subject, "Operation Abolition," was to be shown.

Welch said the essay contest concerning Warren would offer top prize of \$1,000 with eight lesser prizes. Undergraduates at American universities this fall will be eligible.

He said the contest, which is to be detailed in the Birch magazine in August, would encourage students to study for acts of subversion.

The Birch society founder, keynoting the convention, said that Communists have infiltrated the American system in

the places they are least expected.

He said that about 3 per cent of the Protestant ministers in America are Communists who took the posts for power and to work corruption. He said other institutions, the government, and business have the same infiltration.

## THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

DIAMOND FINAL Edition

Date AUG 5 - 1961

Chicago, Illinois

Page 4 Col. 7

Part —

Editor LUKE P. CARROLL

CHICAGO OFFICE

*Handled  
John Birch  
Society  
5-2*

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AUG 5 1961	
FBI - CHICAGO	

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# BIRCH SOCIETY ASSAILED FOR 'VILIFICATION'

## Bar Head Condemns Attack on Warren

St. Louis, Aug. 7 (AP)—The president of the American Bar association today accused the John Birch society of "personal vilification" of Chief Justice Earl Warren and said it tends to undermine public respect for law. **I 19-1**

In an impromptu interpolation in his speech opening the 84th annual convention of the bar association, President Whitney North Seymour of New York City struck out at the far right society for its drive to impeach the chief justice.

### Planned Essay Contest

Robert H. Welch Jr. announced Aug. 4 that the society would conduct an essay contest among college students on "Grounds for the Impeachment" of Warren. The first prize will be \$1,000. Welch said many of Warren's actions and decisions had helped the communist cause.

[Welch's headquarters at Belmont, Mass., said he had no comment on Seymour's statement.]

Delegates of the A. B. A. applauded Seymour when he said, "This is not legitimate criticism of decisions; it is personal vilification of one occupying one of the chief offices of our government."

He continued: "All lawyers must deplore such conduct; no responsible persons will encourage it."

### "Leave Attacks to Reds"

"The ignorant, by such false implications of misconduct are led into disrespect for our institutions which maintain liberty under law, and thus for all law. Let us leave such attacks to the Communists who hate our institutions. Our duty is to uphold and defend liberty under law and the independent courts which are essential to maintain it."

Meanwhile, fireworks over the United States Supreme court's anti-segregation decisions were a possibility when the A. B. A.'s policy making house of delegates convenes. A resolution calling, in effect, upon southern states to cease their fight to preserve color lines is before the house.

### Minow Rips TV Fare

Chairman Newton N. Minow of the Federal Communications commission said he is concerned with the television viewer's lack of choice and variety.

Minow, who has referred to TV as "a vast wasteland" told a news conference sponsored by a section of the A. B. A. that he also deplores a trend toward a set format in radio programming.

The problem of a restricted choice of programs is less acute in radio, he said, because the field is much more competitive with nearly 5,000 radio stations in operation.

Minow said he believes greater variety in TV eventually will come with an increase in the number of TV stations, "but it will take time."

### Pick Southern Lawyer

John C. Satterfield of Yazoo City, Miss., a practicing lawyer for more than 30 of his 57 years, was elected president of the 100,000 member A. B. A. to succeed Seymour.

Named president-elect was Sylvester C. Smith Jr., of West Orange, N. J., 66, general counsel of the Prudential Insurance Company of America.

Satterfield was a member of the Mississippi House of Representatives from 1928 to 1932. He helped draft the law under which the state's modern highway system was built.

## CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE

THREE STAR  
SPORTS FINAL Edition

Date AUG 8 - 1961

Chicago, Illinois

Page 19 Col. 1

Part I

Editor W. D. MAXWELL

CHICAGO OFFICE

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SERIALIZED	FILED
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FBI - CHICAGO	

21 Jul



# DENIES TROOP TRAINING LINK TO BIRCH GROUP

## Gen. Walker Rips Paper's Story

Cleveland, Aug. 18 (UPI)—Maj. Gen. Edwin A. Walker today denied any connection between the John Birch society and his indoctrination program for a division he formerly commanded in Germany.

"Every commander employs every possible means of improving his soldiers every day," Walker said. "The Pro-Blue program was devised for this purpose."

"There was no connection between the Pro-Blue program and the John Birch society as alleged," he added. "The Pro-Blue program was cleared completely of any such connection."

The general was relieved of his command of the 24th infantry division after the program came under criticism by the Overseas Weekly, a newspaper circulated among American residents in Germany. He also was accused of making derogatory statements about prominent Americans.

### Rejects Paper's Stories

The newspaper charged that Walker had termed former President Harry Truman, for-

mer Secretary of State Dean Acheson, and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt "pinks."

"With reference to previous denials on this subject, I repeat that the allegations made by the [Overseas] weekly are untrue," Walker said.

The general declined to make a direct denial when asked whether he had referred to Truman, Acheson, and Mrs. Roosevelt as "pinks."

When he was asked whether he was a member of the John Birch society, he said: "I have no statement on my membership in any organization."

### Army Needs Individualism

Asked whether he feels something is lacking in the American soldier's patriotic will to fight, the general said:

"The strength of the United States lies in our individualism. Our individualism is in itself one of our great advantages."

A newsman asked how a soldier could develop individualism while being regimented in the military service.

"Individualism is based on freedom," Walker said. "It is one of the great inheritances of America."

Walker came here from Germany to attend a reunion of the first special service force tomorrow. The unit, composed of American and Canadian veterans, was the forerunner of a special force now being trained for guerrilla fighting.

## CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE

THREE STAR  
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Chicago, Illinois

Page 20 Col. 2

Part 1

Editor W. D. MAXWELL

CHICAGO OFFICE

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*Special  
John Birch  
Society*

100-36671-159  
*Ed*  
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AP

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# CHARGES U.S. IS UNWITTING TOOL OF REDS

Rep. James B. Utt (R., Cal.), speaking before a convention of the National Committee for Economic Freedom last night, charged the Kennedy administration with being "unwitting tools of the communist conspiracy to enslave the United States."

Dubbing the administration part of the "anti-anti-communist movement," Utt said it "is aiding the communist conspiracy in helping them to achieve their goals in the destruction of the United States." Utt claimed that in reacting against statements by Robert H. Welsh, founder of the conservative John Birch society, the Kennedy administration is contributing to the effectiveness of the communists working underground. "The John Birch society became the Achilles heel of the anti-communist movement, because of Welsh's unfortunate statements," Utt said.

The committee, which met yesterday in the Sheraton-Chicago hotel, will continue its convention today. It is a nationwide conservative group that supports enactment of the "Liberty Amendment"—repeal of the income tax.

*metel  
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## CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE

THREE STAR  
SPORTS FINAL Edition

Date SEP 15 1961

Chicago, Illinois

Page 4 Col. 2

Part II

Editor W. D. MAXWELL

CHICAGO OFFICE

3667-160

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SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 15 1961	
FBI — CHICAGO	

*JRW*

# Democracy. Killing U.S., Welch Says

<sup>24-5</sup>  
**Birch Chief Finds  
'Calculated Evil'**

Robert Welch, founder of the ultraconservative John Birch Society, has warned that this country is being led "insidiously . . . by calculated corruption to its own destruction in democracy."

Welch delivered a "history lesson" Sunday to 500 persons at the seventh national Constitution Day convention of "We, The People!" in the Sheraton-Chicago hotel.

He told his audience, "Democracy is probably the worst of all forms of government."

He said the nation is following the same horrible path to destruction as the Roman Empire did when it shifted from a republic to a democracy in 49 B.C.

## CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

RED STREAK Edition

Date SEP 18 1961

Chicago, Illinois

Page 24 Col. 5

Part —

Editor JOHN STANTON

CHICAGO OFFICE

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 18 1961	
CHICAGO	

*[Signature]*



# Mob Rule In U.S. Charged By Welch

Robert W. Welch, founder of the ultraconservative John Birch Society, Sunday said the United States is being governed by mob rule.

He addressed a gathering here of the seventh annual Constitution Day convention of We, the People!, a right-wing organization that identifies itself as a "national coalition to combat communism in the United States."

Welch presented his outline of what he charges has been a shift from a republic to a democracy undergone in the United States.

"Democracy is probably the worst of all forms of government," he said. "It is rule by the mob while a republic is rule by law."

This country, he continued, had been ruled by a republican form of government until the administration of Woodrow Wilson.

During that time, Welch charged, the change occurred due to the popularity of the slogan "Make the World Safe for Democracy." He urged a return to the republican type of rule.

Welch stirred up a controversy when he called former President Dwight D. Eisenhower a "dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist Party." He has also sought to impeach U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren.

Welch addressed his remarks to some 500 persons in the East Room of the Sheraton-Chicago Hotel.

The group also adopted 12 resolutions among which were demands for congressional investigation of "the anti anti-Communist drive now being conducted in the United States by the Communist Party," and repeal of individual income tax. Another resolution opposed a congressional bill which would require the registration of personal guns owned by citizens with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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<b>CHICAGO SUN TIMES</b>	
FIVE STAR FINAL TURF	Edition
Date <u>9-18-61</u>	Chicago, Illinois
Page <u>26</u>	Col. <u>5</u>
Part <u>-</u>	
Editor	<b>EMMETT DEDMON</b>
<b>CHICAGO OFFICE</b>	

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

MEMORANDUM

~~Confidential~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 6460 RTD/SP-7/LL  
ON 5-4-4

TO : SAC, CHICAGO (100-38198)

DATE: 9-21-61

FROM : SA [REDACTED] Q4

SUBJECT: SOUTH SIDE CP CLUB, CP OF ILLINOIS  
IS - C

b7C

On August 4, 1961, [REDACTED] who has furnished reliable information in the past, personally provided SA [REDACTED] with oral information pertaining to a meeting of the South Side Communist Party (CP) Club held on July 25, 1961. Q4

b2

b7D

The above information was reduced to writing by SA [REDACTED] on August 4, 1961 and authenticated by the informant on August 18, 1961. Q4

b7C

The original information is being maintained in Chicago file # A [REDACTED] and is as follows: Q4

b2

- b2
- 1 - A [REDACTED]
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - [REDACTED]
  - 1 - 61-867 (CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT)
  - 1 - 100-35162 (AAHA)
  - 1 - 100-18209 (CP OF ILLINOIS - PAMPHLETS & PUBLICATIONS)
  - 1 - 100-8261 (COMINFIL - NAACP)
  - 1 - 100-36671 (JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY)
- PFXH:njc  
(18)

100-36671-163

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Q4

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY: SP1 GSK/CM 2/14/80  
REASON FOR EXTENSION: FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION: 9/11/81

~~Confidential~~



~~Confidential~~

Chicago, Illinois  
August 4, 1961

A meeting of the South Side Communist Party (CP) Club, CP of Illinois, was held on July 25, 1961 at 306 East 43rd Street, Chicago.

The following persons were present:



b7C

[ ] indicated that the meeting would be short so that the members could go home to listen to President KENNEDY's speech tonight on T.V.

He first mentioned that CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT told him that it would be all right to allow the African-American Heritage Association (AAHA) to use the hall at 306 East 43rd Street for their meetings if they so desired. Rent could be collected from the AAHA and this money would be put in the club treasury.

Dues were collected by the treasurer and pledges for "The Worker" were also taken up.

[ ] next mentioned that each club member should direct a letter of protest to their Congressman, the President and members of the Supreme Court concerning

~~Confidential~~

CG 100-38198

~~Confidential~~

the recent Supreme Court decision as it effects the CP, USA. This action on the part of the Supreme Court is obviously a capitalist effort in conjunction with the John Birch Society to get rid of the CP, the AAHA and eventually the NAACP.

No further business was transacted and the members were told to be sure to listed to the President as it should prove interesting.

- 3 -

~~Confidential~~



## Birch Society Founder to Speak Sunday

Robert Welch of Boston, founder of the John Birch society, will speak Sunday afternoon at the seventh annual convention of the conservative organization, We, the People, in the Sheraton-Chicago hotel.

The convention opens tomorrow and continues thru Sunday.

Four congressmen will take part in the program under the auspices of the National Conservative Coalition conference, headed by Willis A. Carto of San Francisco.

Carto was a founder of Liberty Lobby, which urges conservatives to write their representatives in Congress when legislation arises that needs conservative support or opposition.

The congressmen on the speaking program here are Representatives James B. Utt and John H. Rousselot, California Republicans, who will speak tomorrow; Rep. E. Y. Berry [R., S. D.] and Rep. William Jennings Bryan Dorn [D., S. C.], speaking Saturday.

Speaking at a rally tomorrow night will be Billy James Hargis of Tulsa, Okla., national president of We, the People, and Mr. Nicholas Nyaradi, former finance minister of Hungary, and now a professor at Bradley university in Peoria.

## THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

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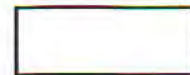
Editor LUKE P. CARROLL

CHICAGO OFFICE

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October 23, 1961

ROOSEVELT TORCH

Page 7

## John Birch member speaks today at 11:30

A prominent member of the highly controversial John Birch Society will speak at Roosevelt today at 11:30 in room 529.

Dr. Slobodan M. Draskovich, a member of the ultra-conservative society's council will speak on "The John Birch Society's Fight Against the Communist Conspiracy in America." The lecture is to be followed by a question and answer period. It is sponsored by Roosevelt University Young Democrats.

Dr. Draskovich, a native Yugoslavian, is author of the book "Tito, Moscow's Trojan Horse." Robert Koenig, Illinois-Michigan co-ordinator of the John Birch Society, said that Dr. Draskovich is "eminently qualified to speak of the Communist conspiracy in all of its aspects."

The John Birch Society has been the object of heated controversy since the semi-secret organization was brought to the attention of the American public early

this year. It is regarded as the new rallying point for the forces of the US right wing.

The Young Democrats' president, Earl Gould, when asked why the avowedly liberal YDs asked Draskovich to speak said, "The sponsorship of a speaker does not mean adherence to his views. We believe any and all political views have the right to be heard, and should be heard, and we would not hesitate to give a hearing to the extremes of either right or left."

"The Young Democrats do intend to stress the liberal political outlook in the future, but we believe Dr. Draskovich's lecture should be of interest to the entire student body."

### John Birch member cancels appearance

The appearance at Roosevelt of Dr. Slobodan M. Draskovich, member of the council of the John Birch Society, has been postponed until November.

Dr. Draskovich, whose scheduled speaking appearance last Monday was sponsored by the RU Young Democrats, canceled his appearance at the last moment.

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : SAC (100-36671)

DATE: 12/29/61

FROM : SA  b7C

SUBJECT: ROBERT WELCH  
Info Concerning

On 12/22/61 WILLIAM G. PIVSLEY, Ant-Defamation League, 8141 B'way, 343 S. Dearborn St., furnished a copy of the Nov-Dec., 1961 issue of "FACTS", published by the ADL. This publication was concerning with the JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY and ROBERT WELCH and is being retained in the 1A section of captioned file.

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*JW* JUT/jt

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**\$100 ESSAY**

## **Wins Birch Prize, Scoffs At Birchers**

KENT, Ohio (UPI)—A Kent State University sophomore won \$100 in a John Birch Society essay contest, but he said he has no sympathy for the organization.

Robert A. Corbett, 19, said Tuesday that the society is unrealistic and its thinking belongs to the 19th Century. He said he wrote 2,000 words he thought would please the society on why U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren should be impeached.

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## RIGHT-WING LEADERS

# Midwest Has Big Role in Birch Group

Second of a series on leaders of "blue" or ultra-conservative groups in the Chicago area and their expanding activities.

BY JOSEPH HAAS

The controversial John Birch Society draws heavily upon the ranks of Chicago and the Midwest for its leadership.

Half a dozen of the organization's 28 national councilors live in Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana. They are:

—Slobadan M. Draskovich, onetime Yugoslavian war minister, today editor of a Serbian-language newspaper and president of the St. Sava Serbian Culture Club, 448 W. Barry.

—Clarence Manion, South Bend, Ind., former dean of the law school at the University of Notre Dame and a long-time leader of such movements as America First of early World War II.

—Stilwell J. Conner, 6657 N. Sioux, president of the Con-

roth Co., Elk Grove Village, a metal moldings manufacturer.

—Reville P. Oliver, Urbana, professor of classical literature at the University of Illinois.

—William J. Grede, Milwaukee, president of Grede Foundries and a former president of the National Assn. of Manufacturers.

—Cola G. Parker, Menasha, Wis., former president of Kimberly-Clark Corp. and a former NAM president.



PRAY

GREDE

JOHN T. BEATTY, 1070 Westmore Rd., Winnetka, recently retired president of the United Specialties division of Industrial Enterprises, 970 Cottage Grove, declined an interview.

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invitation to become a Birch councilor.

He did this, he said, only because he was unable to give the financial support he felt a councilor was called on to provide.

He is a senior adviser of the American Security Council, 205 W. Monroe, an "anti-Communist" organization with 3,100 business firm memberships.

ESTIMATES of the Birch society's nationwide strength range from 60,000 to 100,000 in nearly 40 states.

Robert H. W. Welch Jr., retired Belmont (Mass.) candy manufacturer and the society's founder, won't discuss membership.

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in its November-December 1961 bulletin, Facts, said that if the lower estimate of membership is accurate, Birch income would be \$1,200,000 yearly. Dues are \$24 yearly for men and \$12 for women.

The ADL estimates the so-



BEATTY PARKER

ciety nationally has 500 chapters with 10 to 20 members each, besides "home chapter" members—persons not near a functioning local chapter.

The society is strongest in Texas, with 150 chapters there, and in California, Michigan and Massachusetts, with 20 to 35 chapters each, says the ADL.

IT ESTIMATES Illinois has 10 to 20 chapters.

If this is so, then much of Birch strength here is in Glenview.

Some parishioners of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church there told The Daily News about 50 persons belonged to four to six Birch chapters at the church.

The pastor, the Rev. John J. Dussman, has used his church bulletin, the Clarion, to encourage membership, and the chapters have been meeting in a church hall.

THE ECHELON of leadership below Welch and his advisory board of national councilors is composed of members of its Committee of Endorsers. Local endorsers are:

—W. A. KATES, Hubbard Woods, owner of W. A. Kates Co., 430 Waukegan Rd., Deerfield, a manufacturer of flow regulators for industry.

—W. B. Taylor Jr., Golf, Ill., president of Chicago Pharmacal Co., 5547 N. Ravenswood, a manufacturer of pharmaceuticals.

—Max Gray, 999 Lake Shore Dr., an independent oil producer with offices in the Palmolive Building, 919 N. Michigan.

—Theodore W. Miller, 418 Edgewood Rd., River Forest, a lawyer with offices at 209 S. La Salle.

ROBERT J. Koenig, 42, operates as the full-time paid organizer for the society in the Chicago area from his two-story frame and cement-block home at 6820 N. Osceola.

Koenig declined a face-to-face interview or to permit a reporter to accompany him on his recruiting rounds.

"I prefer not to waste my time with the press," he said in a friendly manner. "I don't expect any better treatment than the society already has been given."

On a visit to his home, his attractive wife said pleasantly he was out. She had no idea when he would return, she added.

KOENIG SAID in a telephone interview that he was a

floor-covering salesman when he joined the society in April, 1959, served as a chapter leader, and became a full-time employee in May, 1961.

Asked why, he replied, "I don't know. I just love my country."

He said he served in World War II and the Korean War. "Both President Kennedy and I commanded PT boats in the Pacific war," he said, adding, "I managed to keep mine intact."

HE DEFENDED Welch for his controversial charges that former President Eisenhower and several top-ranking members of his administration were either Communists or "conscious agents" of communism.

Koenig pointed out that these charges were made as Welch's personal opinion in a "private letter" written in 1954, five years before the society's founding in December, 1958.

"Criticizing him for that would be like using a college graduate's views in a thesis against him 10 years

later," Koenig said.

Koenig contended the society's refusal to list its members or its strength was not "secrecy, but our right to privacy."

"We don't want to help the enemy," he said.

Koenig works from a desk in his "dingy old basement," as he put it, and holds "five or six" recruiting presentations weekly in private homes.

IN THE lounge of the Serbian Club, a three-story brick mansion at 448 Barry, tall, sturdy, dark-haired Draskovich told of spending World War II as a war prisoner first in Nazi camps, then in Italian.

He related how he emerged from the war to the bitterness of the "betrayal" of Draja Mihailovich, the Chetnik guerrilla leader executed by Marshal Tito "on orders from Moscow."

"Mihailovich was the first man in Europe to fight the Nazis and also the first to recognize the danger of communism," the Yugoslav refugee said.



Draskovich, now 51, fled to the United States to find refuge from Titoism. He testified in the late '40s before the Senate internal security subcommittee that Yugoslav officials of the United Nations were acting as Communist agents here.

His book, "Tito, Moscow's Trojan Horse," was published by Henry Regnery Co. of Chicago, in 1957.

**DRASKOVICH**, before the Birch Society was formed, was a member of the Anti-Communist League of America, operated by John Crippen from Crippen's home at 635 N. Merrill, Park Ridge.

"The league served to help me meet others interested in fighting the internal Communist conspiracy," Draskovich said.

✓ Through such contacts, Draskovich was summoned in mid-1959 to a Birch meeting in the Union League Club here at which Welch gave one of his two-day, one-man seminars on the society before 25 to 30 men.

"I FELT in Welch's answers that he was a completely sincere and honest man," he said. "There were points on which I disagreed, but I felt that other factors were more important.

"First, he realized there was a Communist conspiracy here that must be fought, not just an idea. The thought that we have only to refute an idea is a completely futile one.

"The free world has lost 100,000,000 people to communism. If I could believe that this was unavoidable, then we

are finished.

"Only through a conspiracy and infiltration of government was such a thing possible. A job of the society is to find out who is responsible."

\* \* \*

**DRASKOVICH** said he fills speaking engagements, keeps in touch with Welch on policy and meets every three months with the council "in different cities" to formulate plans.

Here is a sampling of Draskovich's views:

**Foreign Aid** — "We should only say to them, 'You will not get aid from us until you choose our side. There can be no neutrality.'"

**Nehru, Sukarno, Tito and Nasser**—They are "going closer and closer to Moscow."

**Mr. Truman** — "He was a good American who knew too little about communism. His recall of Gen. Douglas MacArthur from Korea was influenced by Dean Acheson (Mr. Truman's secretary of state)."

**National Council of Churches**—"They are definitely helping the Communist cause (by urging UN recognition of Red China, among other things)."

**National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People** — "They're very leftist. Regardless of motives, their actions favor the enemies of the United States. It is wrong to force this (integration) as a main issue of our times when the real problem is to destroy communism."

**WEDNESDAY: A Glenview pastor urges letting Khrushchev "have a few of our A-bombs on the button."**

# Birch Group 10-8 Picks Essay Of Chicagoan

**Topic: Warren's  
Impeachment**

A South Side youth who is working his way through Loyola University has won eighth place in a national essay contest sponsored by the ultra-conservative John Birch Society.

Donald J. Senese, 19, of 6235 S. Marshfield, will get a \$100 prize for his 3,000-word piece on the controversial topic chosen by the society, "Grounds for the Impeachment of Earl Warren."

"I tried to point out that the Supreme Court, under Warren as chief justice, has tended to legislate rather than interpret the laws," Senese said.

\* \* \*  
**TOP PRIZE** of \$1,000 in the contest was won by Eddie Rose, a student at the University of California in Los Angeles.

Second prize of \$500 went to Waite Thompson, of Elsah, Ill., student at Principia College.

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# Right Wingers Deserting Welch

Fear Harm  
To Cause <sup>9-1</sup>

BY ROBERT S. BOYD  
Chicago Daily News Service

WASHINGTON — The right wing is backing away from Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society.

Welch has been disowned by many conservative leaders.

They seem to be afraid that a failure to draw a line between themselves and the man who called ex-President Eisenhower a Communist will backfire on the whole conservative movement.

\*\*\*  
IN THE Senate, Sen. John Tower (D-Tex.), an ardent and articulate right winger, made a short speech in praise of a long editorial, highly critical of Welch, in the Feb. 13 issue of the conservative weekly, National Review.

Tower said the editorial makes an "airtight case" against Welch.



Robert Welch looks over audience from chair before addressing grassroots political conference convocation at River Falls, Wis., State College. (AP)

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He put it into the Congressional Record, saying, "I wish to associate myself with its conclusions."

\* \* \*

**THE EDITORIAL** declares that Welch is "damaging the cause of anti-communism because he persists in distorting reality."

It says Welch refuses to make the "crucial" moral and political distinction between an active pro-Communist and an ineffectually anti-Communist liberal."

It denies Welch's more extreme charges—such as that the U.S.-backed invasion flop of Cuba last spring was a "plot by Fidel Castro and his friends in the U.S. government."

National Review also disavows other Welchisms, such as "the CIA is on the Communist side," or "Washington has become a part of the whole international conspiracy to win this Cold War for the Soviets."

\* \* \*

**HERE'S WHAT** other conservatives are saying about Welch:

Russell Kirk, author of "The Conservative Mind," and "Program for Conservatives," said Welch's "silliness and injustice of utterance has become the kiss of death for any conservative enterprise."

Rep. Walter Judd (R-Minn.) said Welch's judg-

ment is so flawed as to disqualify him from leading an effective anti-Communist movement.

Sen. Barry Goldwater said Welch should resign, or the Birch Society should disband and reorganize under different leadership.

Commentator Fulton Lewis Jr. said Welch is "silly" to press for the impeachment of Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren.

### **Catholic Editor Criticizes Welch**

NEW YORK (AP)—An associate editor of the Roman Catholic weekly America says the John Birch Society espouses doctrines that the church has rejected.

Writing in the magazine, the Rev. Benjamin L. Masse said the society's program violates social doctrines set forth in papal encyclicals.

In discussing the society's founder, Robert H. W. Welch Jr., Father Masse said:

"In his denigration of the state and his defense of the 'completely free market,' Mr. Welch is espousing doctrines which the church rejected 70 years ago. He is not only rejecting them; he is making them an integral part of his anti-Communist program."



# Birch Boss Slams Old U.S. Slogan

## Hints Reds Coined Democracy Motto

RIVER FALLS, Wis. (UPI) —Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, says the slogan "make the world safe for democracy" may have been Communist-inspired.

Welch told a grass-roots conference of River Falls State College students here Thursday that the World War I slogan promoted "democracy, instead of a republican form of government."

*("Democracy" is defined as a form of government in which supreme power is retained by the people. "Republican" government is defined as a form in which power is exercised by elected representatives.)*

✓ WELCH SAID that Communists have been active in the United States since 1912 and listed five acts in the administration of President Woodrow Wilson as apparently Communist-influenced:

- ✓ —Adopting the graduated income tax.
- ✓ —Direct election of senators.
- ✓ —Creating the Federal Reserve system.
- ✓ —Using the "full power and prestige of the American government to further Communist influence in Latin America, especially Mexico."

✓ —The tremendous use of the slogan "make the world safe for democracy."

Welch jokingly "apologized" to the largely student audience of nearly 3,000 for not wearing horns and a brown shirt with black arm bands.

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☐ Pending

☐ Closed

Date  
Charged

Serial No. Description of Serial  
173 pulled & placed in 157-115  
on 3/8/62 PCK

3-4-4

4-2-62 J. K. K.

Employee

RECHARGE

Date

To \_\_\_\_\_ From \_\_\_\_\_

Date charged

Employee

Location



# Bomb Russia Now, Says Priest

## Encourages Formation Of Birch Society Units

Third of a series on leaders of "blue" or ultra-conservative groups in the Chicago area and their expanding activities.

By JOSEPH HAAS

It was nearing the time of Advent last November when the Rev. John J. Dussman of Glenview wrote in his weekly church bulletin, the Clarion:

"Should we forewarn Russia of its doom? We have no moral obligation to do so, since they may get the jump on us, if what they boast they have is true.

"Now you might say, what about all the lives of the innocent people in Russia, noncard-carrying citizens who may be as disgusted with their war-mongering as we are?

"If our intelligence is as good as it should be in these perilous times, we should know the location of every last launching pad in Russia and its satellite countries.

"Those are areas that should be bombed without further ado, and without forewarning under the circumstances.

"You might say, that would mean the demise of some Americans as the Russians would retaliate from submarines and the like.

"That is a calculated risk. Far better that a few of us pass into God's Eternal City now a bit prematurely than that half or more of the human race perish a few years hence."

Later in the lengthy essay, he comments, "Khrushchev likes to explode A-bombs heedlessly, let him have a few of ours on the button..."

THE WRITER, is pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Glenview, where in a score of years he has built one of the Chicago area's largest parishes.

Here is a brief sampling of his writings from the Clarion in the last two years:

July 31, 1960—"...for the nonce, the John Birch Society is the largest and ablest group and the best calculated to face up to the red, pink or one-world challenge in this country."

Sept. 11, 1960—"We tend to become so afraid of Moscow that we have lost sight of the threat of Washington. This is the war which every Red leader has predicted we would lose and



FATHER DUSSMAN

"Should we forewarn Russia?" they are right. We are drifting toward national insolvency (due to national debt, high taxes, loss of individual incentive, the nursemaid states, and so on."

SOME 50 members of Father Dussman's church, under his encouragement, have formed half a dozen or so Birch chapters and meet regularly in the church hall.

This is perhaps the largest concentration of Birch cells in Illinois where the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith has estimated there are "10 to 20 chapters."

TODAY, Father Dussman said, he has somewhat altered

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his thinking about the Birch Society, explaining:

"I believe Welch should bow out of the picture. Some of our best and most intellectual parishioners are John Birchers. But they must spend so much time explaining Welch's allegation about former President Eisenhower that I feel he's hurting the movement."

Robert Welch, the society's founder, once estimated 50 per cent of Birch Society membership was Catholic—and the strength of his society has been estimated at from 60,000 to 100,000.

The Rev. Richard Ginder, associate editor of Our Sunday Visitor, a Catholic weekly newspaper, is one of the 28 national councilors of the society.

Catholics, however, do not predominate in the "Blue" right. A majority of its strength appears to be in the Protestant South, Southwest and West, with some clergymen among its leaders. There is also a scattering of Jews, including some rabbis.

**TWO FORMER** parishioners of Father Dussman—no longer in his parish since it was split in two in 1960 because of its growth—were among eight signers of various faiths of an ad published last Dec. 14 in a Glenview weekly newspaper.

The ad quoted a statement of the National Catholic Welfare Conference in Washington, in part, that radical conservatism was "unwittingly aiding the Communist cause by dividing and confusing Americans."

The two, **Edward T. Gargan** and **Paul Mundy**, are Glenview residents and professors at Loyola University.

Gargan teaches modern European history emphasizing "the history of freedom and totalitarianism." He said of the "Bomb Russia" bulletin:

"That's called 'preventive reprisal,' isn't it? It's frightful."

"The Holy Father insistently appeals for peaceful solutions to world problems. He never speaks but that he doesn't urge another search for a peaceful solution."

**IN LAST** November's issue of Social Order, published by St. Louis University, Gargan noted in an article titled "... Radical Catholics of the Right" that ultra-conservatism was "increasing bitterness and tension" among Catholics.

He compared the situation today due to "blue" conservatism with the atmosphere of dissension among early Christians, which prompted St. Paul to write in First Corinthians:

"Each one of you has a cry of his own. I am for Paul. I am for Apollo. I am for Cephas. I am for Christ."

**POPE** John XXIII's encyclical, "Mater et Magistra" (in English, "Christianity and Social Progress"), caused anxiety among Catholic conservatives, Gargan wrote.

They refused "to entertain the idea" that "in any sense the Pope had widened the area of desirable public involvement and responsibility in the alleviation of wants and needs..."

"Some Catholics in their zeal have apparently begun to adopt the rather loose attitude toward the force of authority represented by papal social teaching."

**MUNDY**, professor of sociology who for 10 years has taught courses at Loyola on the papal encyclicals, said:

"Pope John stresses the complexity of modern society and the need for governments to attempt to maintain a proper balance with social legislation."

"The whole emphasis of the encyclical 'Mater et Magistra' is one of genuine social reform."

"There is a great body of

Catholic social teachings which stress a middle course. Warnings against implied extremes, individualism on the one hand and collectivism on the other, run through the writings of the Popes.

"These teachings continue to stress that neither individualism nor collectivism is acceptable, that there has to be a balance between these extremes."

**PROF.** Mundy also pointed out that Pope Pius XI issued two encyclicals five days apart in 1937 "condemning" communism and fascism.

"One has to keep in mind," Mundy said, "that Catholic social teaching emphasizes this repudiation of totalitarianism of the left and of the right."

"Not every anti-Communist position is acceptable, you must remember. After all, Hitler was an anti-Communist. One trouble is that some of these people think any anti-communism is worthy of endorsement."

**MUNDY** said his main concern about Father Dussman was that "some parishioners would think this kind of thinking represents Catholic thought on economic and social matters."

Of the "Bomb Russia" bulletin, Mundy said, "The very real possibility of thermonuclear war is madness, no matter who would start it."

Non-Catholics must not be misled by Catholic conservatives, Munday said, adding that some non-Catholics fail to realize that a local pastor has considerable autonomy.

"The notion that there is a lack of freedom among Catholics is more prevalent in the non-Catholic mind than has been actually the case," he said.

**GARGAN** noted that Birch leaders have been officials or prominent members of 20 top "national organizations according to power and influence in affecting the national economy," and thus the society "cannot be dismissed as a negligible gathering of nonentities."

Of the society's view of existing American political order as "one inadequate to the needs of the nation, lacking in sanction and trust in facing the Communist conspiracy," he wrote:

**"It is here that the Birch Society is truly radical, for it rejects the very root system of our political community."**

"This is not so only in its conventional description of America as a republic rather than a democracy but by an explicit lack of confidence in our existing political order and party system."

**(THURSDAY: The blue conservative local lineup.)**







~~Confidential~~

Chicago, Illinois  
January 25, 1962

A lecture, the second of a series, was held on Friday, January 19, 1962, at the Chicago School of Social Science, 333 West North Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, on the subject of the Dangers of the Ultra Right in America, with SAM KUSHNER, Midwest Director of "The Worker", as the main speaker of the evening.

LOU DISKIN acted as Chairman of the meeting and opened the meeting with an announcement of the forthcoming New Term beginning February 12th of the Chicago School of Social Science, and a continuance of the series of lectures on current events.

SAM KUSHNER in his opening remarks traced the whole history of rightist groupings in America from the Know-Nothing Parties of Civil War Days up to the formation of the America First Committee of FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT's times, and to the present period, with the formation of the John Birch Society, and about 1,000 other right wing societies in this nation. Quoting extensively from numerous pamphlets and newspapers which these groups propagate and circulate, the lecturer commented on their simple language and large type, to sway the ordinary citizen, and for race hatred and religious intolerance, especially in the Bible Belts of the South and Midwest, where these ideas fall on fertile soil. The Negro, Jew and Catholics are their main targets. These right wing groups, the lecturer went on to say, hitherto were for the most part loosely formed and disconnected, but that is all changed now, in the present period. With a Catholic President in the White House, a frenzy of organized activity to consolidate all these right wing groups into one solid fighting front is under way and an effort made to find their leader, a man on horseback who will lead them. This man they think they have found in the name of General WALKER, who will lead a hope rally in Washington, D. C., on February 2nd, on the eve of his hearing

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~~Confidential~~

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~~Confidential~~

before an investigating committee as to his activities of indoctrinating his troops in Germany, to be followed by a big mass meeting at Mc Cormick Place February 9th with General WALKER as the main speaker. With Chicago being the main center of the right wing groups, the timing of all these coordinated activities is considered significant, inasmuch as there are six rifle clubs organized in the Chicago area under the name of Minute Men.

It is now known that a secret directive, issued by the National Security Council in 1958, instructed commanding officers here and abroad, to enlighten both the Armed Forces and civilians in their area on the Cold War policy. It was followed by additional guides and materials still classified as secret, issued by the joint Chiefs of Staff on the basis of which seminars and meetings were organized by the military commands often in cooperation with local business groups.

The Kennedy Administration pursues a contradictory course which flows from the instability of the U.S. imperialist position from the new relationship of world forces. Its wavering course results also from pressures of the masses of people in our country, particularly from the working class, the Negro people, the peace forces, which have been its mass support and which elected it.

The lecturer, SAM KUSHNER, went on to relate the warm reception he received on a recent speaking tour at Drake University where he spoke to some 700 students and other people on the same subject as this evening.

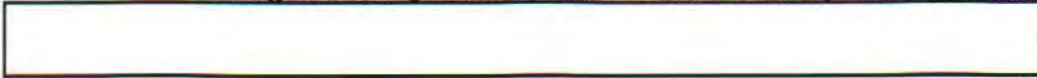
The speaker, SAM KUSHNER, summed up his remarks by taking note of the fact that President KENNEDY in speeches in Seattle and Los Angeles, identified the rightists with the path to war and rejected their position. He emphasized that there are no easy solutions to world problems; recognized that solutions would have to be found through long negotiations, and pointed out that a sense of frustration on the part of the rightists constituted a serious danger to peaceful solutions of world problems.

~~Confidential~~

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Among those present were LOU DISKIN, SAM KUSHNER,



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~~Confidential~~



## Birch Group Growing, <sup>1961</sup> Chief Says

LOS ANGELES (AP)—  
Founder Robert Welch of the  
John Birch Society says the  
militantly anti-Communist or-  
ganization now has more than  
200 chapters in California.

Each chapter has 10 to 20  
members, Welch said.

He said the society is grow-  
ing rapidly throughout the na-  
tion, but he didn't mention the  
total membership figure.

According to the founder, the  
three-year-old organization has  
membership in every state and  
chapters in most.

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# Ultraconservatism In Chicago's Suburbs

By Peter Deuel

A brush fire of ultraconservatism is being kindled in the suburbs.

In a dozen communities ringing Chicago an intense campaign is in progress, led by a group of right-wing political evangelists.

Their influence has reached thousands of suburbanites.

This operation is wide in scope. It has reached into Hinsdale, Deerfield, Waukegan, La Grange, Glenview, Downers Grove, North Chicago, Bensenville, Wheaton and many other towns. It will soon reach into several south suburban communities.

The campaign has many individual elements, but the methods employed in each are the same.

A civic club, in some cases a group of them, sponsors a series of lectures advertised as history lessons on the Communist conspiracy.

The differences between the lectures in Deerfield and Hinsdale or any of the others is slight. Although the speakers are historically accurate, they espouse only an ultraconservative approach.

Following the first group of speeches, there is a second series, apparently unrelated to the first. This new group of speakers is more outspoken in favor of an extreme philosophy than the first group.

Soon after the two series are completed, study groups are formed from those attending the lectures. In the study groups, or cells, participants delve more deeply into the extremist position.

There are striking similarities between these suburban "his-

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tory lessons" and the blueprint for action of the John Birch Society, a band of right-wingers who have attacked former President Dwight D. Eisenhower and U.S. Chief Justice Earl Warren as Red agents.

Robert W. Welch, a retired Belmont (Mass.) candy maker, is founder of the society. Welch has said:

Of Mr. Eisenhower—

"He is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy."

Of Warren—

"He should be impeached. The Supreme Court as a whole in the last few years has been engaged in destroying the Constitution of the United States." He also has called Warren a Communist.

Of the late Sec.-Gen. Dag Hammarskjöld of the United Nations, when he was alive—

"He is a contemptible agent of the Kremlin."

In his blueprint, Welch told Birchers to infiltrate local civic clubs and use their good offices as a front for John Birch Society views.

In April of 1961, a team of Sun-Times reporters investigated the inroads the society had made in the suburbs.

In the fourth of the series of articles that followed the investigation, The Sun-Times showed how the society planned its campaign in suburbia.

"The process starts at public anti-Communist meetings at which the society is never mentioned," the article explained. "The audience is unaware that the only anti-Communist program being offered coincides with the John Birch plan."

"Speakers present the program without the John Birch label."

... At the public meetings, men and women are urged to write for more information and join the fight against communism by forming study groups in their homes, PTAs, churches and civic clubs.

"At this point, near the beginning, there is an automatic sorting. Those who do not write lack sufficient zeal for the John Birch Society. ...

"Those who do write to recommended addresses do not receive any new material. Instead, they are offered film and tape recordings for rent and books and pamphlets for sale. There is nothing from the prolific Birch press."

"The study groups are formed and the similarities with the John Birch Society are not disclosed. Finally, when a study group is ready, a Birch organizer introduces himself and is invited to present his program. ...

"This last step is not possible until the preliminaries have been completed by people who, sometimes unknowingly, have been serving the John Birch cause from the beginning."

Thus The Sun-Times outlined how Birchers would infiltrate the suburbs and form their front groups as Welch suggested.

For the past several weeks, a reporter has been in western and northern suburbs, tracing the pattern of these recent conservative uprisings.

This is what he found.

The "brush fire" began in Glenview in August of 1960. There, at Glenview Naval Air Station, Dr. Fred C. Schwarz, a Long Beach (Calif.) physician, conducted a four-day seminar for Navy personnel and Glenview residents. Schwarz is leader of the Christian Anti-Communist Crusade.

Title of the seminar: "An Education for American Security."

It was sponsored by a group of Glenview civic clubs.

The subject matter of Schwarz's speeches included repeated attacks on the United Nations and the State Department as "Red-dominated" organizations.

Although Schwarz apparently is not a member of the John Birch Society, Welch has expressed his admiration for Schwarz, his organization and his aims. (Page 179 of the Blue Book, the Welch-written guide for John Birchers.)

Here the interconnecting relations between these elements begin to appear.

A three-lecture series recently was presented by the Deerfield Post, No. 738, of the American Legion. Nine other Deerfield organizations acted as co-sponsors including the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Deerfield High School Parent-Teachers Organization, the Lions Club and the Chamber of Commerce.

#### Where The Idea Came From

The idea for the lectures came from Edwin M. Gillen, a beautician and head of the Legion post's Americanism committee.

Members of the post had attended the Glenview series of Dr. Schwarz and had suggested to Gillen that the Deerfield post sponsor a similar production.

Gillen said that he and post commander Arthur Martin went to North Chicago to hear Herbert Philbrick, who joined the Communist Party as an undercover man for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and who has since made his living telling audiences of his adventures.

After the speech, Gillen said, the two legionnaires discussed their plans with Philbrick and he agreed to lecture in their series. Gillen said Philbrick recommended other possible lecturers.

The series was finalized, Gillen continued, after he talked with a representative of the Flick-Reedy Educational Assn., a Bensenville group which has been active in setting up similar lectures.

Then, Gillen said, he approached the other civic clubs and asked them to lend their name to lectures designed to inform the public of the Communist menace. They agreed.

When the first speech was made, an uproar was created among the more liberal members of at least one of the co-sponsors, the Parent-Teachers Organization.

The unhappy members objected to what they called the "controversial content" of Philbrick's lecture.

#### Committee Of Inquiry Named

Stuart Bernstein, a Highland Park attorney, was named to head a committee of inquiry by members of the protesting group of the PTO.

Bernstein said, "In a sense this is a controversial issue and our group does not believe the PTO should be involved in something controversial."

The lectures had a political nature, he said, "because the speakers did not pretend to present an objective study of history."

Philbrick has long claimed that the Reds have been infiltrating the clergy.

Gillen defended the lectures vigorously, saying there was no political intent in the Legion's sponsorship.



"All we wanted to do," he said, "was to find out more about communism. There are those who don't want us for we do not think we are extremists."

He called the series a "study in Americanism."

"We plan to organize study groups," he continued. "We asked people to sign cards after the speeches indicating their interest in learning more about communism."

"We've got about 140 names. If we can get 75 or 100 to show up on one night, we'll arrange for a large group. Otherwise, we may have to divide into three smaller study groups."

"Some people want to start at the bottom and learn all they



EDGAR C.  
BUNDY

CLARENCE E.  
MANION

DR. FRED C.  
SCHWARZ

can about this conspiracy, as Philbrick so ably put it," Gillen said.

"Most study groups could start out with a man like Edgar C. Bundy (Wheaton self-styled Communist hater and long-time advocate of extreme right-wing views). The study group is more intimate. There's a lot of book work to be done. It would be a 6- to 10-part series."

#### Denies Birch Society Connection

"We hope to extend this study plan into further meetings," he said. "We are trying to instill a little more old-fashioned patriotism in our fellow citizens."

Gillen disavowed any connection with the John Birchers, or

any other right-wing groups.

But a fellow Americanism committee member struck a familiar note when asked if he thought Chief Justice Warren is a Communist and should be impeached. "I don't know," he said.

Another of the suburban conservative affairs was presented in the Hinsdale Community House. It was sponsored by the Cook-DuPage Freedom Series and presented by the Flick-Reedy Educational Assn., to which Gillen made inquiries before sponsoring the Deerfield lectures.

The Flick-Reedy association was started in October by Frank Flick, president of a Bensenville company which manufactures hydraulic cylinders.

Robert J. Stein, an assistant to Flick, said the educational association was formed to help promote these lectures.

"Flick heard a speech by a Texas man last summer," Stein said. "He was so impressed by the content of the speech that he arranged for the speaker, a George Roberts from Hurst, Tex., to give his lectures to Flick-Reedy employees."

"That series was so well received, he asked Roberts to present a second round of speeches and invited the townspeople to hear it."

#### A Witty, Polished Performer

"Since then, we formed the association. Mr. Roberts has permitted the association to use his lecture materials and we are making plans for a speakers bureau," Stein said.

Who is George Roberts? Stein said Roberts has "made his

living on speaking tours for about 12 years," but he knows little about him personally.

Roberts is paid \$375 a night for the six-part series.

A reporter attended the Hinsdale presentation and listened to Roberts' discussions.

The announced purpose of the speeches is to acquaint the listeners with the dangers of the Communist menace. The unannounced, but equally obvious, purpose is to present an ultraconservative critique of all forms of liberalism.

Roberts is a polished performer—charming, witty, and with a kind of folksy humor that wins an audience to his side.

By the time the last few lectures roll around, those who disagree with their content have already dropped out. Those who remain are of a conservative leaning and receive Roberts' comments on "pinkish New Dealism" with gusto and applause.

#### Blue For Patriotism, Red For Liberalism

To sum up the theory behind Roberts' presentation, liberalism is akin to socialism. Socialism is the weak sister and hand-maiden of communism. While Roberts doesn't say it, the



listener is led to infer that liberalism is also akin to communism.

Chalk talks use blue, or patriotic, squares for conservatism and red ones for liberalism.

Thus the relationship takes shape. Gillen got his ideas from Schwarz who, at the least, is serving Welch's cause.

Gillen consulted Flick-Reedy. Flick-Reedy got its start after Frank Flick heard Roberts.

Philbrick appears in several places in both the past lectures and in future plans.

During the last two Hinsdale speeches, Roberts suggested that members of the audience would benefit from attending a series soon to start in Downers Grove.

A group calling itself Individuals United for Action Against Communism in Downers Grove, Illinois, distributed leaflets on their series to the audience.

On the list of speakers appear the names of Bundy, the Wheaton lecturer, and Clarence E. Manion.

#### **Manion Member Of Birch Council**

Manion is a former University of Notre Dame Law School dean and founder of the Manion Forum, a radio series.

Manion is also a member of the national council of the John Birch Society. He is scheduled to speak at other suburban gatherings in 1962.

So the cycle nears completion—from Schwarz through the many intermediaries to Manion.

Although Manion has disagreed with many of Welch's pronouncements, he is in accord with the John Birch objective of impeaching Warren.

When Sun-Times reporters first surveyed the suburban scene months ago, they found this area would be a fertile ground for the Birchers and their sympathizers.

The recent investigation in the suburbs showed this prediction to be true. From the events of the past few months, it appears the suburbs are not far from that last step of which The Sun-Times warned last April:

"This last step (identification of John Birch as the guiding force behind the lectures, study groups, etc.) is not possible until the preliminaries have been completed by people who, sometimes unknowingly, have been serving the John Birch cause from the beginning."

## Ask Welch Prove Reds in U.S. Posts

WASHINGTON (AP)—The justice department has asked Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch society, to produce evidence supporting his charges that thousands of Communists hold government posts.

So far, said an official, Welch has not responded to the request made Dec. 8.

Assistant Atty. Gen. J. Walter Yeagley, chief of the department's internal security division, said today he wrote Welch about a speech Welch gave Nov. 20 in Austin, Tex.

The assistant attorney general said news accounts quoted Welch as referring to "a comparatively few thousand Communists, concentrated in key depart-

ments" of the government.

Yeagley said he wrote Welch, "The charges you make are not to my knowledge supported by the material in the investigative files of government employees."

"It would be my suggestion that you turn over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation at once such facts as may be in your possession and the sources thereof which you believe establish that certain government employees are members of the Communist party."

"If appropriate action is to be taken it is necessary that such data as you indicate you possess be made available for the use of the government," Yeagley added.

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## Top Bircher Mum to Plea<sup>35-5</sup> For Red Data

BELMONT, Mass. (UPI)—Robert H. W. Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, has refused to comment on a Justice Department request that he disclose the names of alleged Communists in government.

The request made by assistant Atty. Gen. J. Walter Yeagley, chief of the department's internal security section, after a Welch speech in which he said a large number of Reds are concentrated in "key departments." Yeagley suggested he turn over his information to the FBI.

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## Methods 'Parallel Communism'

# Challenged Speaker Blasts Birch Society

Gordon Hall, whose speaking engagements in Rockford Tuesday admittedly "created some undercurrents" including anonymous phone calls and threats of cancellation, took the stage for the Rockford Women's Club and blasted away at the John Birch Society for what he termed "Patriotism on the Radical Right."

Hall introduced his hour-long talk by declaring:

"I have a high regard and great affection for conservatism, I'm going to talk about movements that have gone beyond conservatism but use that label — those beyond conservatism that divide our country at a time when we need unity."

His talk and a display of pamphlets and publications on stage divided these radical right groups into four categories:

1. Organizations that claim to be conservative and anti-Communist, such as the John Birch Society.

2. Those that concentrate on attacks against churches and religions, attacking groups such as



Gordon Hall, Boston, lecturer on extremist organizations and activities in the United States, talks with Mrs. Leroy W. Esten, Rockford Woman's Club program chairman, prior to his talk before the club Tuesday. (Register-Republic staff photo)

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the National Council of Churches, Jews, Catholics.

3. So-called "states' rights" groups which he described as sometimes nothing more than segregationists and anti-Negro factions in disguise.

4. The most extreme of the lot—movements which feel the entire internal system is broken down and that we need a completely new system—"namely the Fascist-Nazi system."

Hall qualified the categories by adding that there are legitimate anti-Communist groups, states' rights groups and others and these were not the ones he was concerned with.

Returning to the John Birch Society, he declared that its claim to be conservative and anti-Communist is disproved in all that it does and stands for.

He pointed to similarities in the Birch Society and the Communist movement. Both, he said, are violently opposed to NATO—the Birch Society because it believes NATO is Communist controlled; and the Communists because they believe NATO is an opponent and a block to communism.

He read from the "Blue Book" of the Birch Society a section suggesting the organization of front organizations of the society under different disguising names.

"This is a characteristic of the Communist party," Hall declared, "not of conservatives but of totalitarian movements."

He blamed attempts to cancel his speaking engagements throughout the country on the Birch Society. True conservatives would not try to do this, he said. "Freedom is a basic part of conservatism — a belief in the Bill of Rights and in freedom of speech."

"There are approximately 1,000 extremist groups operating in the United States," Hall declared. "Not conservative groups, but well-meaning, patriotic, irresponsible groups."

"The way to cope with them," he said, "is to raise the level of public opinion... separate the con-

servatives from the extremists, the liberals from the Communists."

"We have a spy problem, yes, but I think it is over-rated."

We withstood the Nazis and the Axis powers, and I would suggest that security agencies of government are the way to chase this down.

"We're not all experts on tuberculosis and medicine but it doesn't take five minutes to become an expert on communism. All you have to be is against it."

Hall declared that "We are secure. We are secure from within, although there are Communists boring away at us. But this is a job for (J. Edgar) Hoover and the FBI."

"I think we should question the

judgments of people, but not their loyalties."

Mrs. Harold Johnson, president of the Rockford Women's Club, introduced Hall with indications, but no direct statement, of opposition to his appearance.

She said that in the club's recurring problems "we might have more than the usual problem. But in 60 years we have never been dictated to by any one community group."

Hall's afternoon talk for the Women's Club was followed by one that evening in the Jewish Community Center for the Rockford Civic Federation. Both organizations, he said, chose the same topic from his selection of talks on extremist groups and ac-

## ★ ★ ★ Cleric Warns Catholics on Birch Group

CLEVELAND (UPI)—The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis W. Carney said Friday that Robert Welch's estimate that 40 per cent of John Birch Society members are Roman Catholics indicated "an appalling ignorance of many Catholics of the social teaching of the Catholic Church."

Msgr. Carney, director of the Institute of Social Education at St. John College in Cleveland, said Catholic members of the society should spend their time reading Pope John's encyclical on social progress rather than the Birch Society's blue book.

"THE John Birch Society," he said, "in the principles and practices which it advocates stands in open opposition to Catholic social principles and practices."

He warned Catholics to dissociate themselves from a group that "eventually may prove unpatriotic, despite its pretense of patriotism."

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# Birch, Papal Doctrines Clash, Says Priest

## Why Catholics Join Society Puzzles Editor

BY DAVE MEADE

Daily News Religion Writer

**“WHY ARE** so many Catholics tagging along with the Birchites?”

The question is raised by the Rev. Benjamin L. Masse, S.J., associate editor of *America*, a national Catholic weekly magazine published by Jesuit priests.

Father Masse points out in the magazine's Feb. 17 issue that the socio-economic doctrines of the John Birch Society are just the opposite of those of the popes for the last 70 years.

He believes Roman Catholics may have been attracted to the far-right society by its founder's claim that it stands for “a better world.”

This idea has “heavy spiritual overtones,” Father Masse says, and it “may be one reason why some Catholics, including a sprinkling of the clergy, have found Mr. Welch's leadership sound and inspiring.”

**ROBERT WELCH**, retired Massachusetts candy manufacturer who founded the John Birch Society in Indianapolis in 1958, wrote the controversial “Blue Book” that outlined his program of opposing communism.

The society has been censured—“for the most part justifiably,” Father Masse notes—for “adopting dubiously moral means to achieve its laudable objective; for inflicting grave damage on the nation's unity and morale.”

### Principles Not Developed

Aside from its methods, what about the things it stands for? The Catholic writer says the Blue Book, “the bible of the Birchites,” doesn't develop these in detail.

But he asserts, “It does say enough, however, to raise a

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serious question about the propriety, to put it mildly, of Catholic membership in the society."

Father Masse adds that "it is impossible, in a crucial respect, to reconcile the John Birch Society's 'constructive replacement' for collectivism with the social doctrine of the Catholic Church."

He particularly takes issue with Welch's emphasis on "less government" as a keystone of "constructive replacement."

"Are we in the presence of still another sincere but misguided attempt to refurbish the immoral and discredited economic liberalism of the 19th Century?" he asks.

\* \* \*

THE PRIEST-EDITOR outlines several points of "Blue Book" doctrine, among them an attack on government as a "necessary evil" and a defense of the "completely free market."

Then he cites the social encyclicals of three popes—Leo XIII's "Rerum Novarum," Pius XI's "Quadragesimo Anno" and John XXII's recent "Mater et Magistra"—to refute the Birchite concepts.

He quotes Pope Leo regarding government: "Man's natural instinct moves him to live in civil society. . . . Hence, every civilized community must have a ruling authority, and this authority, no less than society itself, has its source in nature, and consequently has God for its author."

## 2 Positions Unreconcilable

"Obviously," Father Masse writes, "that doctrine cannot be reconciled with Mr. Welch's teaching that government is a 'necessary evil.' God is not the author of evil, necessary or otherwise."

Pope Pius later praised social legislation even though it interfered with the operation of a free market, according to the America editor.

These early laws dealt with industrial accident prevention, involuntary unemployment, wages and hours of work, protection of women and children.

Father Masse quotes Pius' words that "free competition, while justified and certainly useful provided it is kept within certain limits, clearly cannot direct economic life . . ."

"MR. WELCH is espousing doctrines which the church rejected 70 years ago," Father Masse says.

And today, he adds, Pope John "exhorts states . . . to bring about a better balance between rich and poor, between farm regions and metropolitan centers, between developed and undeveloped countries. . . ."

"Far from accepting Mr. Welch's thesis that there is no middle ground between the completely free market (laissez-faire capitalism) on the one hand, and collectivism, socialism and communism on the other, Pope John believes just the opposite.

"He goes so far as to say that 'systems of social insurance and social security can contribute effectively to the redistribution of national income according to standards of justice and equity.'"

"There is, then, an open and flagrant contradiction between the socio-economic teaching of Robert Welch and that of Leo XIII and all his successors."

"This being so, the question must be asked, in all honesty and charity: Why are so many Catholics tagging along with the Birchites?"

In a companion article, Russell Kirk, conservative author and educator, says Welch "has done more to injure the cause of responsible conservatism than to act effectively against communism."



## Mabley's Report

# Welch Ducks Question on Eisenhower

BY JACK MABLEY 3-1

WITH HIS PECULIAR WAY of backing into statements, Robert Welch writes, "I would say that it could not be more than one-half of one per cent" of Catholic clergy who are Communists.

That would mean of 2,778 priests in Chicago, not more than 13 or 14 are Communists.



JACK MABLEY

only a comparatively few thousands Communists . . . it could not be more than . . ."]

He reverses his rhetoric in the November issue of the Birch society bulletin with these words: "With regard to the total pyramid of American national life, the Communists own the top, have considerable strength in the middle . . ."

I ask Welch to name one Communist in government—just one. "O, Mr. Mabley, don't be naive," he replies. It is the duty of the federal government to name Communists, he says.

Is it any wonder the head of the John Birch Society is regarded by conservatives as irrational, that he has been disowned by Sen. Goldwater, Sen. Tower, William Buckley, Russell Kirk, Rep. Judd, and virtually every responsible conservative leader?

What Welch does NOT say is far more significant than what he does say in the interview to be televised over WGN-TV at 8 o'clock tonight.

WELCH CHARGES there are thousands of Communists in top posts in the federal government. [Only he says it backwards: "I don't think Communists have anywhere near 3 per cent . . ."

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Welch soars off in generalizations. This is his theory: The Communists are making gains all over the world. The American Presidents and top officials are supposed to fight communism. Communism is gaining. Therefore, American Presidents and top officials are either Communists or communist sympathizers.

Following this kind of reasoning, syphilis has been increasing in recent years. Therefore, doctors, who are supposed to fight syphilis, actually are agents promoting the disease.

**WELCH SHRUGS OFF** the criticism from the men he once praised so highly—Buckley, Goldwater, Tower, Kirk, J. Edgar Hoover. "This is a political year," he answers.

What does that mean? Every year is a political year. Are any of these men running for office?

The jackpot question, of course, is anything with the word "Eisenhower" in it. I'm certain Welch is absolutely convinced that Eisenhower is a conscious, dedicated agent of the communist conspiracy.

He used these words in his book, "The Politician." He still believes it. Obviously his advisers have told him to say nothing about Eisenhower.

If you watch Welch tonight, see where he goes when I ask him for the moment to ignore all past charges, accusations, writings, everything, and say here and now, what does he think of Eisenhower.

**WHEN I ASK WELCH** about the 302 page printed hard cover book with the title "The Politician" on every page, he says I had no right to read it, and anyway it was a private letter, not a book.

He says he has answered the Eisenhower question a thousand times, and he's simply not going to answer it again, and he has no further comment.

What did he answer a thousand times? "No comment."

"I never made such a statement," he will say. "You are talking about a private personal letter."

All right, Mr. Welch, in a 302-page printed, hard-bound private personal letter titled "The Politician" which I read you called Eisenhower a traitor and a communist agent.

Do you still believe this to be true?

I challenge you to answer.



# 'Abuse' Helps, Says Birch Society Chief

*Welch Speaks  
To Executives*

The founder of the controversial John Birch Society said here Friday the anti-Communist group is thriving on adverse publicity.



ROBERT BIRCH

Robert Welch, former Belmont, Mass., candy maker, told the Executives Club of Chicago that the "intensive abuse" of the society caused resignations of only "2 or 3 per cent of membership" last year.

"But the average increase in membership in that period has been 2 or 3 per cent a week," Welch said at the luncheon in Sherman House.

HE DESCRIBED the society's leadership as being "the most imposing list of leaders of the American conservative movement."

Sixty per cent of the society's members were Protestants, he said, 40 per cent Catholics and about 1 per cent Jews.

Of the society's refusal to publish its membership, he said the Daughters of the American Revolution and the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People do the same thing.

Mere patriotism and anti-communism are not enough for membership, he said, but also "good will, good conscience and possession of religious ideals."

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## 'Aid to Reds' Attacked by Birch Society Founder

An overflow crowd of Chicago business leaders yesterday heard Robert Welch defend the John Birch society, which he founded, and denounce the aid and comfort he said is given Communists by misguided Americans.

High on his list of misguided persons, Welch placed Chief Justice Earl Warren of the United States Supreme court, whose decisions, he said, have "broken down the constitutional safeguards of American individuals."

In an intense delivery, Welch told the Executives club in the Sherman House that he sided "100 per cent with Sen. James O. Eastland [D., Miss.], who on Wednesday charged that Warren "decides for the Communists" when there is a clear cut decision to be made between them and the security of the United States.

### Tells Opposition to War

Welch, strongly applauded as he answered a series of controversial questions, made these responses:

On preventive war to halt communism: "I'm not in favor of war at all and it's the last thing the Communists expect. We don't have to have war. And much as I hate to say it, we don't even have to oppose the Communists. All we have to do is stop our government from helping them."

Welch cited the loss of China and Poland to Russia thru



Robert Welch, founder of controversial John Birch society, accepting sugar at luncheon of Executives club in Sherman House, where he was featured speaker. (TRIBUNE Photo)

"blundering United States leadership" and the recent near catastrophe in the Katanga province of the Congo as evidence of such aid.

### Attacks Military Censorship

On military censorship: "I'm violently opposed to censorship of the military. A strong nationalistic armed force is the last bulwark against communism and Moscow has concentrated for many years on breaking this down thruout the world."

On how to identify a Communist: "When a person year after year does things which always turn out to benefit the

communist conspiracy, it's reasonable to assume that he is a Communist."

On the Birch society's stand on segregationists: "We are opposed to the use of government force to support either segregation or integration. It's an individual matter. Beyond that we are divided."

### Keep Membership Secret

Welch, in a 30 minute explanation of how his society functions and what it stands for, said that the "left wing press" had distorted its public image, chiefly by calling it a secret society.

"We never give out our membership lists, of course," Welch said. "But, of course neither do the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People nor many other national organizations. The NAACP, the last I heard, was fighting a court order requiring them to yield up such a list. We're on their side; there is no reason they should give up that list."

Welch said the "influence of the left wing press in the United States is far too strong." But, he said, this stemmed from a mere 2 or 3 per cent of communist sympathizers in the fourth estate.

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# Communism Would Crumble Without U.S. Aid, Welch Says

By Peter Deuel

Robert Welch, founder and head of the John Birch Society, Friday said international communism would crumble if the U.S. government stopped helping it.

Welch, speaking before a luncheon of the Executives Club of Chicago, was asked if the ultra-conservative group would support preventive war.

"No, we would not, we're not in favor of any kind of war," he told the nearly 1,400 persons in the Grand Ballroom of the Sherman House.

"All this talk about war is ridiculous. There is no likelihood of armed conflict on this

territory until there is an internal take-over by the Communists.

## 'Just Six Months'

"We don't even have to oppose the Communists. All we have to do is to get our government to stop helping them everywhere in the whole world for just six months and the whole worldwide Communist empire would start falling to pieces."

The society has been actively seeking the impeachment of U.S. Chief Justice Earl Warren, because, it claims, Warren and the court have "cut holes in our Constitution."

After a 30-minute speech in

which he outlined the history and objectives of the society, Welch answered some two dozen questions sent to him on cards from the audience.

One of the inquiries asked how he felt about remarks made on the floor of the U.S. Senate by Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.) attributing to Warren a "soft" attitude toward communism.

"I agree with his statement 100 per cent," Welch replied. At this point the audience broke into its first of five interruptions for applause.

Welch said the society has received so much criticism from liberals, newspapers and many clergymen because "the Communists are frightened of us." He said: "We have frightened them because we are doing an increasingly effective job against the Communist conspiracy."

"Our organizational structure (local chapters carefully screened which receive monthly bulletins outlining society plans) has kept the Communists out of our chapters."

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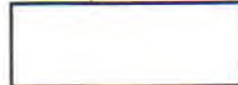
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#### Repeats Charge

"They have been unable to divide us internally as they have all other anti-Communist groups."

Welch repeated his charge that about 3 per cent of the employes of the federal government are Communists.

"But," he said, "many more are made the dupes of the Communist line."

He also defended himself against claims that he called former President Dwight D. Eisenhower a "dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy."

He explained to his listeners that those remarks were lifted out of context from a private letter he sent by registered mail to some personal friends. He denied the society ever called the former President a Red.

In addition to Warren and the Supreme Court, those attacked by Welch included: "the left-wing press," other anti-Communist groups and the Kennedy administration, for "muzzling" the military.



Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society, talks at Sherman House.